25¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

SEPTEMBER 19th, 1974, ISSUE No. 36

Fall Bass On Wire

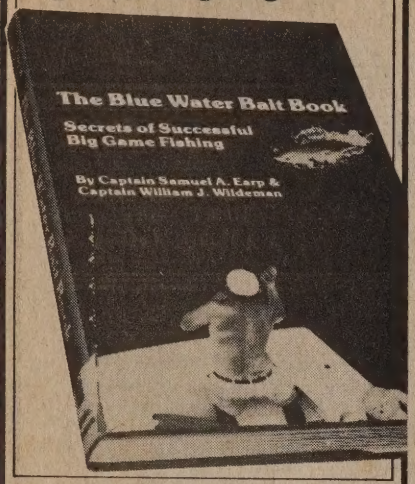
The Mossbunker

How To Catch Squid

BUNKER SPOONS

Fisherman's Special to Montauk?

"A must for anyone interested in big game angling"*



In a clear, straightforward text, together with many photographs and line drawings, the authors, both professionals who make their living at big game fishing, examine the full range of offshore fishing equipment and techniques:

- Materials needed for rigging baits
- Care and freezing of bait
- Do's and don'ts of knots
- What to do if you run out
- How to hook each fish
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BOATING

BAYSIDE
Forest Hills High School, September 19, 8:00 P.M.
Flushing High School, September 24, 8:00 P.M.
Bayside High School, October 2, 8:00 P.M.

BROOKLYN
St. Francis College, September 10, 8:00 P.M.

CAPTREE
Lindenhurst Jr. High School, September 11, 7:30 P.M.
Farmingdale High School September 18, 7:30 P.M.
No. Babylon High School, September 30, 7:30 P.M.

COLLEGE POINT
Church of the Redeemer, Flushing, September 10, 8:00 P.M.

EAST HAMPTON
Middle School, September 17, 7:30 P.M.

GREAT NECK
Great Neck North Jr. High, October 3, 8:00 P.M.
Great Neck South High School, October 3, 8:00 P.M.
Mineola High School, October 3, 8:00 P.M.

GREAT SOUTH BAY
Islip High School, October 1, 8:00 P.M.
Sayville High School, October 21, 8:00 P.M.

HEMPSTEAD BAY
No. Valley Stree High School, September 23, 8:00 P.M.
Hewlett High School, September 25, 8:00 P.M.

JONES BEACH
Ziggies Restaurant, Massapequa, September 9, 8:00 P.M.

LITTLE NECK BAY
Manorhaven School, Port Washington, September 24, 8:00 P.M.
Temple Torah, Little Neck, September 24, 8:00 P.M.

MANHASSET BAY
Glen Cove High School, October 3, 8:00 P.M.
Roslyn High School, September 23, 8:00 P.M.
Manhasset High School, Monday, Mid-Sept. 8:00 P.M.
St. Peter's School, Thurs., Mid-Sept., 8:00 P.M.

MORICHES BAY
Longwood High School, Middle Island, September 9, 8:00 P.M.

NEPTUNE
Pulaski School, E. Northport, September 10, 8:00 P.M.
Huntington High School, September 11, 8:00 P.M.

OLD FIELD POINT
Stony Brook University, September 24, 8:00 P.M.
Newfield High School, September 24, 8:00 P.M.
Rocky Point High School, September 24, 8:00 P.M.

OYSTER BAY
Oyster Bay High School, September 18, 8:00 P.M.
Syosset High School, September 19, 8:00 P.M.

PATCHOGUE BAY
Patchogue Middle School, September 9, 8:00 P.M.

PECONIC BAY
Riverhead High School, September 10, 7:30 P.M.
Southampton Intermediate School, September 11, 7:30 P.M.

PLUM BEACH
Kingsboro Community College, October 10, 8:00 P.M.

SEWANHAKA
Herricks High School, October 2, 8:00 P.M.
Elmont Memorial High School, October 2, 8:00 P.M.
Sewanhaka High School, October 3, 8:00 P.M.
New Hyde Park Memorial High, October 3, 8:00 P.M.
Garden City High School, October 3, 8:00 P.M.

SMITHTOWN
Sweetbrier School, September 17, 8:00 P.M.
Sweetbrier School, September 24, 8:00 P.M.

SOUTH SHORE
Freeport High School, September 9, 8:00 P.M.
East JMeadow High School, September 11, 8:00 P.M.
Oceanside High School, September 23, 8:00 P.M.
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FREE BOATING CLASSES BEGIN OCT. 1ST

Do you own a boat? Are you planning to buy one? Or do you often take a reide in a friend's boat? If so, then you should know more about the rules of safe boating.

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The free course will be given by the Great South Bay Power Squadron at the Islip Junior High School beginning October 1st. at 8 P.M. Instruction will cover such subjects as boating safety, seamanship, aids to navigation, government regulations and the use of the compass and charts.

Registration is on Sept. 19 and Sept. 24 at the Islip High School between 7:30 and 9:30 P.M. For more information about the course call 581-9475.

The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 9, Number 36 — September 19th, 1974

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ABOUT THE COVER: Crab Catches boy—not an uncommon happening during the years of the crab. Janie O'Neill of Beverly Road, Oakdale, knows they're in the Connetquot River, but he used the wrong bait. (Peggy Hoynes Johnson photo.)

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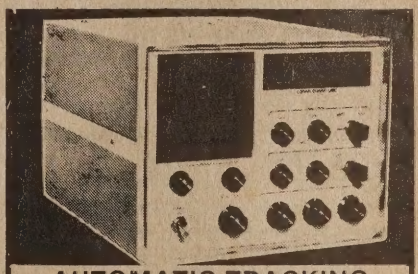

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FISHERMEN TO BLAME?

I have noticed as I read your magazine, that you are concerned about pollution of our waterways.

I am writing this letter because I feel that the fishermen themselves are partly to blame for it.

I often go fishing in a local bay by rowboat. In a rowboat, you are very close to the water, and can see more garbage in it.

While it is true that industry pollutes, how can you blame the following on them: empty bait boxes, dead fish (over catch), beer cans, bottles, lure wrappers, hook sleeves, etc.

I always bring a garbage bag with me. At the end of the day I bring it in and dump it.

A few years ago, I rented a rowboat. When I returned I asked where the garbage pail was for my bag of refuse. The man said to me, "Give me that I'll show you what to do withit". He then took it and threw it in the water.

I was amazed at his short-sightedness for his own job or business.

I would also like to add this: The few places I have rented at, do not go out of their way to supply garbage pails at the dock. They seem to show little concern about pollution.

Indeed, they often look at me, with my plastic garbage bag, in a funny way.

I can only assume that most people "deep six" their garbage.

In closing, I will say "thanks!" to all owners, workers or fishermen that try to keep our waters clean, for it is these men that are insuring future seasonsof fish. I am sure that many would wise-up if they thought about it more. **Joseph J. Cusimano, Bronx, N.Y.**

READER THANKS CAPTAIN OF THE PARTY BOAT "KLONDIKE"

"I would like to publicly thank the Capt. of the party boat Klondike-New Rochelle, N.Y., for helping my husband and I while out fishing for blues off Norton's Point one day recently.

Seeing that we weren't having as much luck as our efforts should have brought, the skipper (who's passengers were having VERY GOOD luck), asked what we were using. We told him that we were using diamond jigs, and not geting any hits. He then motioned to bring our boat loser to his, and handed us several Hopkins.

We tied on the Hopkins and within a few minutes both of us had fish on.

Our many thanks to a generous and friendly Capt. who turned a fishless day into a very exciting day indeed. This man is a true sportsman." **Phyllis Steinberg, Brooklyn, N.Y.**

After all the letters we receive in which the party boatman is the bad guy, it is our pleasure to publish this one. Mr. & Mrs. Steinberg operate the "Any Time" out of Sheepshead Bay.

BUMPER STICKER FOR THE FISHERMAN?

I have had this idea for sometime, but have not been able to accomplish it. Bumper stickers appear for almost everything—how about us!? Maybe something can be done on a sales basis, $.50 apiece, or something. What do you think? **J. Glenn, Farmingville, N.Y.**

Sounds like a good idea to us! What do you readers think about a "Fisherman" bumper sticker, such as this one suggested by Mr. Glenn: "L.I.F. I'd rather be Fishing. Long Island, N.Y." We're open to suggestions.

TUNA-TEASE

I've been following with great interest and concern the excellent articles by Al Ristori on the plight of the bluefin tuna. As a fisherman I confess to the desire to catch one of these giants, especially when I see in LIF the triumphant photo of some other angler. On the other hand, I realize that all fishing (commercial and sport) of the species should be regulated until a stable population is established. It would be easier for me to cope with myself — imposed abstinence if LIF did not print those pictures! **Paul Edelson, Brooklyn**

CLUB NEWS

ATTENTION CLAY BIRD SHOOTERS

At last the date of September 22, 1974, will soon arrive and so will the BIG event of clay bird shooting, "The Long Island Championship," which is the granddaddy of trap shooting for Long Island and the nearby states.

The Long Island Championship will be hosted by Babylon Rod & Gun Club, Inc., R.F.D. #389, Manorville, N.Y. 11949, and will be held on Long Island's finest trap fields at Suffolk County Trap & Skeet Range, Gerard Road, Brookhaven, N.Y.

There will be over $600.00 in Silver Trophies awarded to twenty winners.

As with all great shoots this is an appropriate time to honor Frank Wirth, a great sportsman who has certainly done wonders in promoting the advancement in Trap and Skeet Shooting on Long Island.

Among our dignitaries will be Senator Bernard Smith, Commissioner of Parks John Chester and Superintendent of Parks Schuyler L. Corwin.

Practice and Registration will start at 8:00 A.M. and the event will start 9:00 A.M. There will be eight event traps and two practice traps.

Lightfoot On Snappers

Your article on snapper fishing was O.K., but there's more to the subject...

First — time! Early morning and late afternoon are the best in August and September. When the sun is high, the fish go deep and slow down on feeding.

A dock with a brisk current is ideal, and the best place is at the end which is down-tide. You reach a wider area from that corner of the dock, and are getting to fish waiting for the tide to sweep bait away from the comparative shelter of the dock. Also, you have less interference from other fishermen!

A bob is not needed at all with a moving tide. You actually have better control without it. It becomes most useful where the tide is slack or slow.

When the tide makes your bait and line move away from you, the hook should be run through one eye, inside the body, out of the body at the middle, and back into the body near the tail. With fresh spearing, the bait will hold its shape on the hook.

With slack water, it is often best to hook the fish from its dorsal (top) section, into the body cavity, and back up so that the fish is in a swimming position when lowered into the water.

Snapper rigs with a spinner, especially the kind with a fish-shaped spinner before the hook, are much more effective than a plain hook. However, they are best in rapid water.

Small (baby) bunker, about 1¼ — 1½ inches long, will outperform spearing as bait, but are hard to get.

Fish deeper in hot hours of the day, and don't be surprised if you pick up porgies or eels, or, more rarely, small stripers and weakfish.

It used to be common to rig up with a spreader and 2 hooks. When the snappers are thick, double-headers are possible. It could be that the spreader simulates an umbrella rig — or is it vice versa?

Snapper blues have such tiny scales that the scales can be eaten. In this case, you can actually clean the fish simply by tearing off the head — which will drag the entrails with it.

In some years, snappers are found with a repulsive parasite in their gills, shaped something like a sand flea. So far as we know, they have no effect on the eating value of the fish. **Fred Lightfoot, Huntington Station, N.Y.**

News Releases

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The first in a series of public hearings to be conducted throughout the state on a proposed coastal zone management program that will have a major impact on the Hudson River shoreline from Troy to New York City, will be conducted in Albany on October 1, State Senator Bernard C. Smith (R) of Northport announced.

The hearing will be conducted by the Senate Standing Committee on Conservation, Recreation and the Environment, of which Senator Smith is chairman. It will be held in Hearing Room A of the Legislative Office Building at the Capitol from 1 to 7 p.m. Local, regional and state governmental officials, property owners and the general public have been invited to attend. Other public hearings are being scheduled for different parts of the state later in the fall.

The proposed coastal zone management program calls for comprehensive planning and managing of all coastal areas of the state. This includes a 28-county region along the Great Lakes, Long Island, New York City and the Hudson River. The Hudson River Valley is included because of the tidal nature of the river all the way from its mouth to the upper reaches of Troy.

According to Senator Smith, the legislation will create a coastal zone authority on the local, regional and state levels to control land and water development and use. The authorities would operate through a comprehensive permit system and have strong enforcement powers with sanctions of up to $5000 a day for violations.

The full management program would go into effect six months after approval by the Legislature. Local zoning plans and ordinances, when sufficiently developed, will provide the bulk of the controlling mechanism. Regional and state plans will be developed in cooperation with local authorities during the first three years of the program.

Although the legislation calls for the creation of six regional boards and a state commission, Senator Smith said, "the program would primarily serve as a supplement to the zoning powers that have traditionally been vested inlocal governments. The three levels of government will function as partners in protecting and developing the valuable shoreline resources."

"There is no desire to usurp local authority in matters that are primarily of local concern," Senator Smith said. "The program will strengthen the ability of local governments to protect their off-shore resources and shorelines. Many of these local governments have sophisticated zoning plans and ordinances and it is clear that these governments should continue to control and direct the development and use of the resources."

SOBA REQUESTS RESIGNATION OF ENERGY CHIEF SAWHILL

The Save Our Bays Assn. of Long Island has taken issue with recent statements made by the Federal Energy Chief, John Sawhill, that off-shore drilling is inevitable and that after the public is heard, off-shore drilling will take place anyway.

His position, stated even before public hearings are held and an environmental impact statement has been issued, on Souther California lease sales by the Interior Dept., has given cause for SOBA to request President Gerald Ford to ask for the resignation of Mr. Sawhill.

The public's right to a clean environment must prevail, and public officials who take this right away must be removed from office.

HULL FAILURES OF BROADWATER BOATS

Thus far this year three lives have been lost in accidents relating to hull failures of wooden Broadwater boats.

The boats involved are 25, 27, 29, and 31 foot wooden boats manufactured by the Broadwater Boat Co. of Mayo, Md. The hull failure is characterized by a split in the planking approximately nine feet from the bow, which would be in the general location of the forward support when the boat is cradled for maintenance.

To prevent further losses of life, the Coast Guard is requesting that owners of such boats inspect them for cracks, bulges, hollows, loose screws, or layers of wood coming apart at the location described above. Owners detecting damage are urged to contact Broadwater and the Coast Guard with a description of the damage and the location of the boat or where it may be inspected.

All wooden boats, and particularly those which are several years old, should be carefully inspected.

NEW! — AMERICAN PANFISHERMEN ASSOCIATION

There is virtually a club or organization for every special interest fresh water species. Possibly, the only exception is the nation's panfish. A.P.A. is presently affecting Long Island membership but has an intended national scope. It is a not-for-profit and tax-exempt organization that exists only for the enjoyment of the members and to achieve a multitude of constructive and benevolent purposes.

Panfish is the broad term applied to the sunfish family and related species. Some of the panfish members include: bluegill (bream), pumpkinseed, black crappie, white crappie, rock bass, warmouth, white bass, yellow bass, white perch, yellow perch and an abundant amount of additional regional species. Long Island indeed has a substantial share of panfish, but it is extremely remote case when one is found to attain its potential. It is among the purposes of A.P.A. to correct this situation and try to affect an about-face.

Usually, when one goes fresh water fishing for the first time, the first catch will be a member of the panfish family. These catches are usually, to say the least, regarded lightly. If these species were caught at their potential, would they be so lightly regarded?

A.P.A. feels that, through responsible and enthusiastic membership, it can achieve its goals. Some of the fresh water readers might be interested in hearing of the organization. A.P.A. may well prove to be to panfishing what B.A.S.S. is to bass fishing. If you require any additional information on this organization, please drop a line to Joel R. Fuoco (Founder-Acting President), 663 East Olive st., Long Beach, N.Y. 11561

TAORMINA NAMED MARINE DIRECTOR

Environmental Conservation Commissioner James L. Biggane recently announced the appointment of Anthony "Tony" Taormina as Director of the Division of Marine and Coastal Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Commissioner Biggane said that Taormina, who has 25 years of service with the Department, will continue to retain his responsibilities for the Department's fish and wildlife programs on Long Island in conjunction with his new duties.

Mr. Taormina was born in Brooklyn and attended elementary schools in Collumbia County and Hudson High School. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees in zoology, forestry and botany from the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse. He joined the Department as an Assistant Game Research Investigator in Rochester in 1949 and was appointed District Game Manager in Syracuse in 1955. In 1961 he was transferred with the same title to Long Island. He was promoted to Regional Supervisor of Fish and Game on Long Island in 1965.

Mr. Taormina lives at Port Jefferson with his wife and two sons and

(Continued on page 11.)

The Mossbunker

by Frank Berrafato

Any angler who has fished the waters off Long Island for striped bass or bluefish has undoubtedly come across mass schools of silvery fish commonly called mossbunkers or menhaden. These fish, which attain a maximum length of 15 inches, are painted in a dark-blue, green, or blue-gray which gradually turns into silver. The mossbunker, a member of the large Herring family, makes its residence along the Eastern Atlantic seaboard from Nova Scotia to Florida. He is a distant relative of the tarpon.

I first came across the mossbunker as a young boy in the early 1950's. One hot summer morning, I was fishing with my father from a jetty structure on the Bronx side of the Whitestone Bridge (Ferry Point Park) - at one time an excellent spot for striped bass and occasional, roving schools of bluefish. There were a lot of bunkers in the area at this time, and I managed to land one which had become entangled in my line.

The oily fish was cut up into strips and used as bait. We immediately got some hits, and I can remember landing several bluefish and striped bass that day with this newly discovered source of bait. The mossbunker, characterized by an oversized head and a large mouth with no teeth, has intrigued me ever since that distant summer day.

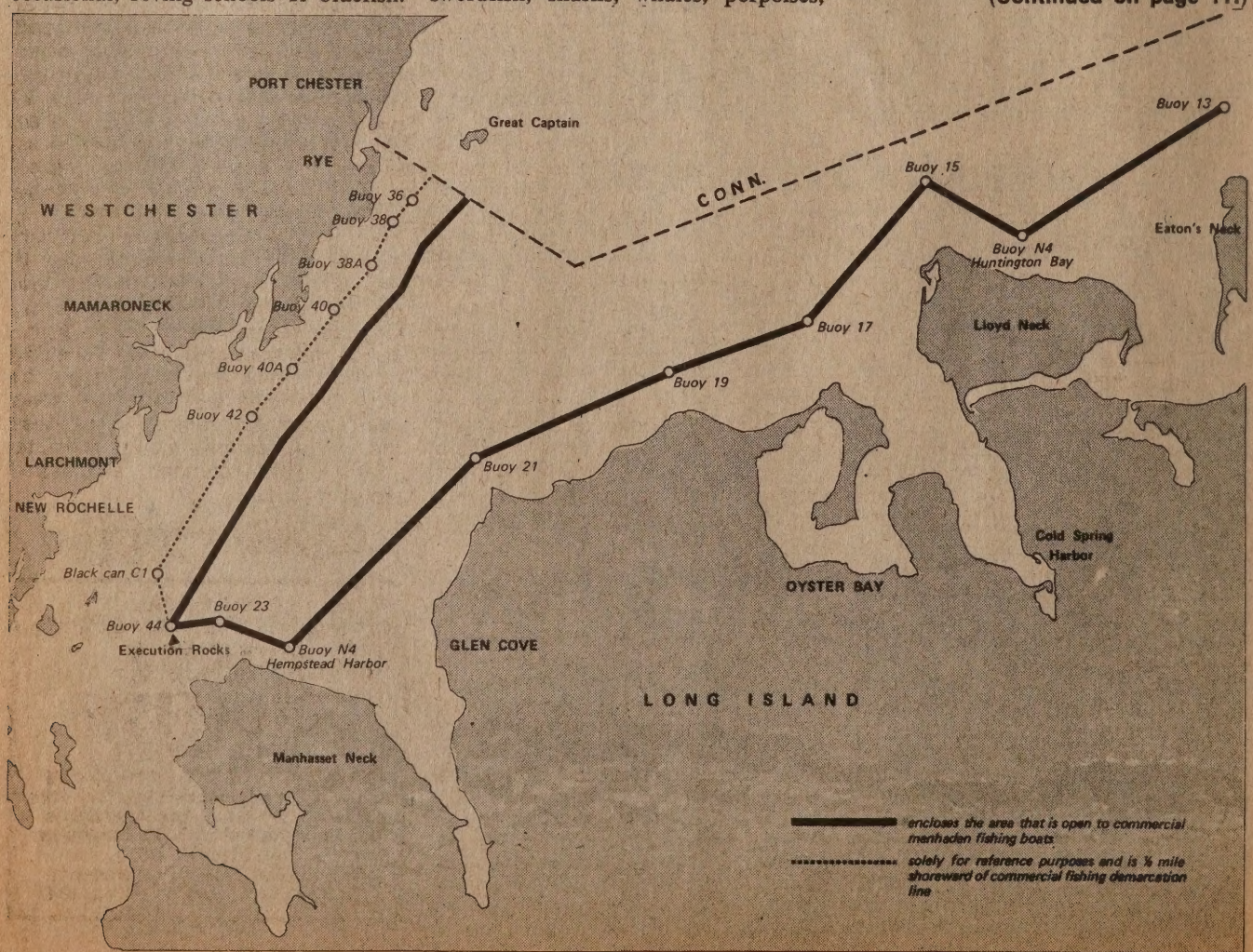
The bunker has no teeth, and he feeds on tiny plankton organisms which can be sifted from the water with his specially constructed, comb-like gill rakers. His search for microscopic food often takes him into shallow coastal waters where he becomes fair game for roving predators, particularly bluefish. Offshore, he is preyed upon by tuna, swordfish, sharks, whales, porpoises, and other denizens of the deep.

The story of the mossbunker is inextricably woven with the development Long Island. Exploitative and unscientific agricultural methods had nearly exhausted Long Island and New England farmlands, and it was not until the end of the eighteenth century that the value of the bunkers came to be realized.

In 1790, a local farmer started to use bunkers as fertilizer. By 1810, hundreds of thousands of mossbunkers were being caught and used each year as fertilizer; by 1850, this number had increased to the hundreds of millions.

The Long Island bunker fishery had entered its agricultural phase. Better farming and bigger catches went hand in hand. (It is interesting to note that the name "menhaden" is believed to

(Continued on page 11.)



Note: Not meant for navigation purposes (scale is not exact)

Surf Side

with Doc Muller

How to Fish Jones Beach West End 2

Any inlet is a potentially good surfcasting spot, but from time to time I bump into a fella who tells me that there aren't any fish to be had from Jones Beach West End 2.

In fact, this area offers a wide variety of surf fishing opportunities. Both the pro and the neophyte angler alike can and do take advantage of good fall fishing at West End 2.

There are three good surf fishing locations: The pocket, the jetty and the back. Where you fish depends upon how experienced you are and the kind of tackle that you will be using. Unlike most high surf locations, you don't need big sticks and monster plugs to catch fish.

The most popular area to fish is the jetty. I'm not talking about the very end of it at the moment—we'll save that for later. The greater part of the jetty is bordered by sand on the east and the inlet on the west. There is a sand bar that runs northeast—southwest and begins where the jetty merges and disappears in the sand and then extends out and slightly into the inlet to the southwest.

The waters contiguous with the jetty can be successfully fished at all stages of the tide because of this sand bar. The incoming tide rushes over the bar, carrying bait into the deeper trough against the jetty. In addition, there are numerous depressions in the trough and the bass often lie quietly there, waiting for baitfish that are tumbled in the current. During the outgoing tide, especially after the water is about half out, it is possible to wade out onto the bar and cast into the deeper water. Admittedly, this bar was better some years ago, but there are still many good fish to be had.

Exacting skills are less important here than elsewhere. Occasionally, you may see fishermen with big sticks casting tin to the bar and then working the lures erratically off the bar into the trough and, of course, they do produce. More often then not, however, fisherman will have light-to medium-action rods and will be casting Rebels. It isn't necessary to make titanic casts. The fish are close to the jetty.

Cast a 5-or 7-inch sinking Rebel (floaters do not work well) toward the open end of the inlet, then retrieve very slowly so that the lure works close to the bottom. The current is very strong, and by the time you've worked the lure to the rocks it will have passed you on its way up the inlet. Therefore, it is important to cast to your left and then keep track of the drift of the plug as you retrieve it.

Many fishermen carry extremely long-handled gaffs in order to land the fish from high on the rocks. It is difficult and dangerous to try and crawl down the rocks in order to gaff a fish. However, the top of the jetty is flat and easily negotiated, although some fishermen use felt or carpet-soled sneakers or waders when fishing this portion of the jetty.

One of the best spots to fish from the jetty is the area around and slightly to the north of white shack. The white shack is about half-way along the length of the jetty.

Except for occasional flurries of bluefish, the inlet is a poor choice for surf fishermen during the summer. Small school bass can be picked, but I think a pick at larger bass and blues from the north shore beaches and Montauk is a better bet. Yet, in September, after the first really good blow, the mullet begin to exit the bays in large schools. It is in September that the best fishing moments occur in the inlet. By October I'd fish Montauk and then suggest that the inlet is good for small bass in the late fall — after the big fish have left most beaches.

The tip of the jetty is for the experts — the "jetty-jockeys." Although on calm days it is fairly safe to fish from that portion of the jetty that is bounded by the pocket on the east and the inlet on the west, I think it takes a special surfman to handle himself out there when the waves crash over the slippery rocks and the wind whistles across the taut line.

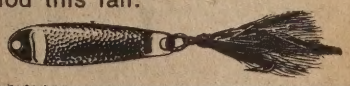
The fishing is best during the worst weather, so these guys fight their way out there, expecting to be washed off a few times but knowing what to do if they are beaten up a little. The prescription for success on the rocks calls for jetty creepers—cleated metal shoes—and live eels, rigged eels, or eel jigs. Many a cow has been whipped by the jocks off the West End jetty.

If the back jetty is ideally suited to the beginning surf fisherman and the tip of the jetty is perfect for the expert, then the pocket—the water adjacent to the east side of the jetty—is for everybody. But the pocket does not produce consistently. However, in the fall the marauding predators chase the baitfish along the jetty right up onto the sand. These occasional blitzes are usually associated with outgoing water.

The schools of baitfish are pushed along the west side of the jetty by the outgoing tide and they are ultimately carried to the tip of the jetty. Once the tiny fish are out of the inlet current they hug the edge of the jetty for safety. At times such as these the bass and blues may discover the bait and then all Hell breaks loose!

The back is the stretch of water behind the ocean. The water is usually quiet and the influence of the ocean waves is minimal or nonexistent. The feeding fish push the bait up against the back, and its worth a try. It may catches can be had for the wise angler who knows the holes and bars and works them hard. Sometimes, when there are no fish up-front, there is a steady pick of bass and/or blues in the back and its worth a try. It may take some time to learn to read these waters, but until you have gained some experience you can watch the pros and listen well.

Last fall there were many good fish taken from the beach at West End 2. It seemed like each day brought new glowing reports of big bass taken on plugs as well as eels, and from the crowds that were present when I made my trips I think that the success of many fishermen last year has done much to stimulate interest in the West End. All indications would seem to point toward another successful period this fall.



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MOONGAZERS, BASS & TRAP

BY FRED GUARDINEER

A 3 LB. RETTBERG STARGAZER OR MOONGAZER

WAS THE UNUSUAL CATCH OF TONY INGEGNA OF BAYPORT FISHING MORICHES BAY AUG. 20 IN HIS BOAT "GET LOST" OUT OF TADSEN'S FISHING STATION. IT TOOK A KILLY MEANT FOR A FLUKE - THERE WAS A QUESTION OF RECORDS AND THE FOLLOWING IS THE INFORMATION DUG UP FROM OUR "WEIRD FISH" FILES. IT RANGES THE U.S. ATLANTIC COAST.

MOONGAZERS AVERAGE ONE POUND. THE RECORD IS 5 LB. 15 OZ.

IT HAS LETHAL POISON SPINES BEHIND PECTORAL FINS. BOTH FISH LIE BURIED IN SAND WITH JUST EYES LOOKING UP.

THE NORTHERN STARGAZER,

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THE 43RD ANNUAL

LONG ISLAND INVITATIONAL TRAP CHAMPIONSHIPS WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, SEPT. 22, 1974 ON THE GROUNDS OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY TRAP & SKEET RANGE, GERARD RD., BROOKHAVEN, L.I. THE EVENT WILL BE HOSTED BY THE BABYLON ROD & GUN CLUB, INC.

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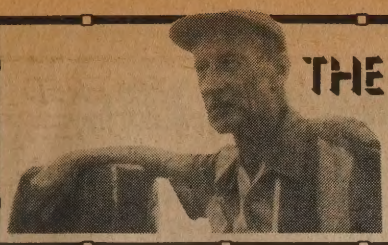

THE BOTTOM LINE

with Matt Ahern

Bait Up for Good Fishing

An old fisherman I knew once told me that for the most sport, use lures. For the most fish, always use bait.

There's certainly a lot of truth to that. In fact, with some salt water fish, such as winter flounders and blackfish, the only way to connect is with some form of bait.

Without question, when fishing salt water, the most frequently used baits are sand and bloodworms. With these the fisherman can catch most of the bottom fish available in our waters. Even such gamesters as weaks and stripers will seldom refuse a properly presented worm. Using these worms is simple enough, but even this bait needs a little understanding for best results.

For example: Experienced fishermen wanting flounders on Long Island's north shore usually can be found dunking sandworms with good results. The south shore fisherman finds bloodworms putting fish in the bucket.

This doesn't mean the fisherman using sandworms on the south shore will go fishless, and vice versa. It just means flounders in certain localities have a preference for what is native to their environment. The fisherman recognizing this fact is the one most apt to meet with success.

With the high cost of worms today, more and more fishermen are buying garden forks and digging their own bait.

At low tide, most exposed flats along Long Island's sheltered shores produce both blood and sandworms for the angler willing to put in the effort. A little hard work may be entailed, and you may discover muscles long-forgotten, but digging worms is also an enjoyable pastime.

Occasionally, the angler digs up a long, flat worm known as a tape worm. These often exceed three feet in length, but those commonly dug are much less. You won't find them in bait shops, but they're ideal bait for flounders, blackfish and most other bottom-feeding fish. Don't take more than needed; they seldom keep for more than a short period of time. One or two, in addition to your blood and sandworms, are plenty for a day's fishing.

When using worms for bottom fish, it's best to use pieces about an inch and a half long. Allow a quarter inch or so to trail; it's a good idea to leave the barb exposed. Not only will this prevent the bait being stolen by some smart fish, but it will practically hook the fish for you.

As good as these tempters can be, however, there are times when other baits will outfish them. For instance, quite often more and larger flounders are caught on clams than worms, and certainly when the fisherman uses crabs instead of clams, he can expect larger blackfish—especially in fall.

Hard and soft clams make excellent bait and can easily be purchased at the nearest fish market. You can also dig them from the same area as worms.

When digging soft clams, which are the easiest to come by, look for small holes in the surface mud. Often the clam will spurt water when approached. Place the fork about four inches away from the hole and push down as far as possible. Check your forkful carefully before moving on as they are easily overlooked.

Incidently, some areas require a special license to dig clams. These are usually issued free upon application. Check your Town Clerk, or equivalent, so you don't run afoul of the law.

Skimmer clams are great bait for most every bottom fish and can be bought at the nearest bait store either fresh or frozen. Get fresh ones, if possible. These should be cut into narrow strips the same length as for flounders. When sea bass or porgy fishing, it's best to slice each piece a bit wider.

The bane of blackfishermen is the bergall. To get around these bait-stealers, the fisherman often resorts to the use of a snail-like mollusk called the conch. Tough as shoe leather, conch have accounted for many outsize blackfish over the years and are very useful in areas infested with an over-abundance of bergalls.

They can be purchased from large bait suppliers, or often picked up along ocean beaches after a good blow. A pointed knife is used to remove the conch from its shell. The thin, shiny "foot" is sliced off and discarded. A mallet is needed to flatten the meat to pancake size. Trim the black skin away and cut into narrow, inch and a half pieces. The preparation of conch takes a few minutes, but it will pay for itself when used.

There was a time local fishermen could gather all the china-back fiddlers and green crabs needed, but not any more. Today, they are bought from bait stores. Blackfish love crabs and the fisherman is practically assured plenty of action when these baits are used.

The male fiddler's large claw should be removed and the hook inserted at this joint. The claw may be discarded or used for chum. It's a good idea to allow the hook point to come through the opposite side. This method insures better hooking and blackfish never seem to notice that point of metal.

When using green crabs, remove the top shell and legs. Cut into two or more pieces depending on size. As with fiddlers, allow the point to protrude. The black will zero in on crab bait with gusto, signaling his presence with a good, solid tug. Wait until this heavy bite is felt before setting the hook.

Killies and spearing can be netted if the fisherman wishes. This is always lots of fun, especially when time isn't too important; otherwise it's often better to buy them beforehand. Killies are used alive, but spearing die in minutes after capture and are usually sold frozen.

When used on a three foot leader, a live killie hooked through both lips is a prime bait for fluke. Spearing, as bait, have beem taking fluke for years and are seldom refused by the fish. The hook should be run through the head, then back about mid-point of the body.

Many fishermen are unaware that live killies are excellent bait for sea bass on the offshore wrecks. Use the same rig-up as for fluke, but shorten

(Continued on page 37.)

Tackle & Techniques
with Glenn Voparil

Ronnie Lepper & His BUNKER SPOONS
Part Three

ROD

It is Ronnie's considered judgement that there is no satisfactory mass-produced trolling rod on the market that should be used with bunker spoons. It's all in the action—the softer, the better; the rod that would start bending at the butt would be a gem to use. The reason: the soft action allows for mistakes by absorbing the shock when the boat lurches ahead or drops momentarily down from the magical speed at which the lure is working correctly.

The blank to use is the Lamiglas #0903, which is a nine-footer. You can build the rod in either of two ways:

1. Cut off the tip (about 3") to accept a no. 12 tip guide and make a one-piece rod to fish the inside lines. (Four lines fished; two port, two starboard. On each side, one line in and one line out, outrigger-style, but never use outriggers!)
2. Cut the blank to a no. 12 tip guide, and use it as the tip for an outside rod, the overall length of which will be 10-10½ feet. If you can afford it, have aluminum butts made: They can stand the rigors of long, hard fishing for huge fish with wild, heavy lures.

The guides on your trolling stick should be made of carbaloy, with rings large enough to allow all your snaps and swivels to pass through freely. Agate—the real McCoy— is also good, but is hard to come by these days.

Roller guides are out because of their ability to get jammed at the wrong time. You could use large ones to allow all the terminal hardware to pass through, but then they'd have to be huge, and would unbalance your rod.

REEL

The recommended reel would be the Garcia 624. It is completely unnecessary to go to a larger size; most bass trollers go over-gunned, anyway. This reel is light, strong and rugged, and is a good choice especially in those situations where tackle abuse is a factor that must be considered. The reel will hold 400 feet of 40-pound mono backing, 300 feet of monel, and the terminal rigging, and still give you adequate clearance between the filled spool and the crossbars.

TYING IT ALL TOGETHER

Always fish where the fish are. Sound silly? It isn't, if you use a good electronic depth indicator. The paper-recording type is best, because you don't have to be constantly watching the machine. Both Ronnie Lepper's "KIM" and the 19-foot Aquasport we at The Fisherman use are equipped with Ross recorders; they work well.

No machine? In that case different rods should be fished at different depths. When only one rod is being fished, fish it ⅔ of the way down; two rods—one, ⅓ down, the second, ⅔ down; three rods—same as with two, with the third running nearer the surface. Do not change depth-settings for one fish; it could have been a fluke (pun intended). Wait until you've caught the second bass at that depth, then change all rods. Both spoons and tubes should be fished the same way.

If you want to know about how deep your lure is, the rule of thumb is 10 feet of wire out for each one-foot increase in lure depth. In practice, with all 300 feet of wire out, you won't be down 30 feet; maybe 25. But bass feeding on bunker are not usually deeper than 20 feet. If you must go deeper, use drails.

A good procedure to follow would be to determine how deep your spoons work under varying conditions—no additional weight, 2 oz., 4 oz., 6 oz., 8 oz.,—and keep records. The use of drails becomes a matter of trial and error—you'll have to experiment with your own rig.

Whatever else you may do, never bring your lures closer than 75 feet astern. As the bass move out of the way of the approaching boat, they will also return to their former positions after the boat has passed. But the boat will have moved at least 75 feet in the meantime; if your lure is closer than that, you'll be fishing dead water.

Setting the hook is done automatically; there is no need to heave back on the rod when you get a hit. When a forty-pounder, moving in one direction, hits a spoon with a huge single and 5/0 treble traveling at 5-6 knots in another direction, and nearly tears the rod from its holder, anything you can do becomes superfluous. It's also unnecessary. In addition, don't drop your lure back. That only gives the fish slack you don't want him to have; he'll leave, sans hook. For the average fisherman, this translates to "no pumping", because inexperienced pumping leads to slack.

That brings to mind the other place where you are most likely to lose your fish: at the boat. By the time you get it alongside, ther's apt to be a big hole in his mouth. Give him slack now—he's off!

During the fight, keep the rod at about a 45° angle, do not keep it high in the air. That's a terrific pose to take, and it's effective, too—when you're fishing with light, limber tackle, or want to keep you line from getting cut on obstructions in shallow water. But we're talking about fairly heavy equipment here, not exactly the nine-foot wand you'd use casting to bones on the flats.

Well, that's the basic story about fishing bunker spoons for big bass, Lepper-style. The run begins at the beginning of October and will end in...? Those of you that want to try a proven, successful method can begin with what you've read, and apply this to your own practice. Don't forget to let us know how you did.

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NEWS RELEASES

(Continued from page 5.)

maintains an interest and membership in dozens of community and environmental groups.

MASSACHUSETTS TUNA LAW

Commissioner of Natural Resources Arthur W. Brownell has announced new rules and regulations governing the taking and landing of bluefin tuna.

He said the new regulations were adopted by the DNR's Division of Marine Fisheries after scientists and fishermen expressed concern over the status of the Atlantic bluefin tuna population and the rapidly expanding fishery for this species along the Massachusetts coast.

The new regulations, adopted following a public hearing under the auspices of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission, require a special permit to fish for this species for commercial purposes. Brownell pointed out, however, that a permit would not be required for persons catching tuna for their own use or for immediate release.

In order to get up-to-date information on the catch and certain biological data for scientific study, catch reports will have to be filed within seven days of any catch. A daily landing limit of two fish per-day-per-vessel will be imposed unless the fisherman is operating under a season catch quota of approximately 80% of his 1973 catch. This catch quota may be assigned by the Director of Marine Fisheries at the request of the fisherman who must be able to substantiate his 1973 catch. All fish must be landed in Massachusetts unless prior approval to land the tuna outside of the state has been obtained.

The regulations also prohibit the use of nets for taking tuna; however, net fisheries which have traditionally fished for bluefins will be permitted to continue under a quota. Brownell said violations may result in the revocation of the permit and a fine ranging from $500 to $1000.

Brownell emphasized that the new regulations are part of a cooperative effort between the states and the federal government to manage the bluefin tuna fishery. The primary objectives of the regulations are to provide up-to-date information on the status of the resource and fishery and to limit expansion of the fishery. As more scientific data is assembled, the regulations may be refined and modified to provide better protection of the resource while maintaining a viable fishery.

In the meantime, Commissioner Brownell advises anyone interested in fishing for bluefin tuna to contact the Division of Marine Fisheries, Leverett Saltonstall Building, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, Mass. 02202, Tell: 727-3193 for more specific information about the regulations. The special permits may be obtained from the Division office at the above address either in person or by mail. The cost of the permit is $10.00.

(Continued from page 6.)

have been derived from an Indian word meaning "fertilizer." Evidently, the Indian had learned to use the mossbunker long before the settlers came to this country.)

The first fishermen were mainly farmers who went out in boats when the bunkers appeared. These fishermen - farmers organized small, simple organizations or companies for the purpose of catching the fish. Each company took on a different name, such as the "Coots," the "Fish Hawks," the "Eagles," and the "Water Witches." Their main possession was a huge seine.

By 1850, the agricultural phase of the bunker fishery gave way to the industrial phase. A dark colored and pungent smelling oil was extracted from the fish. The remains were ground into fertilizer.

Oil factories mushroomed up all over Long Island. Many ex-whalers were now attracted to the task of capturing mossbunkers; sloops and schooners (soon replaced by the steamship) chased the bunkers farther and farther offshore. The oil was, and is used for lubricants, paints, soaps, and printing inks.

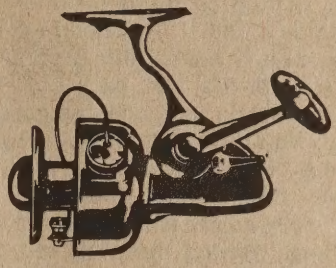
The mossbunker is important to Long Island sportfishermen. "Bunker dunking" (using a live bunker) is an effective means for enticing large striped bass off Sandy Hook, and many areas on the North and South Shores. Ground bunker makes excellent chum for bluefish, tuna, mackerel, fluke, striped bass, and mako sharks. Bunkers can also be cut into strips or fillets for bottom bait fishing.

Every year parasites and disease decimate many mossbunker schools. Dead and decaying fish are washed upon shores and beaches by the thousands, leaving a heavy, unpleasant scent in the surrounding area.

The mossbunker is generally considered unfit for human consumption - too oily. But I can imagine that there are readers who will insist that any fish is edible if prepared the proper way. Perhaps this is so. Whatever the case, the mossbunker is an important member of Long Island's marine community, and his presence off our coastal waters aided in the development of the land and the people who inhabited it.

Shakespeare

GUARANTEES
OPEN-FACE
REELS



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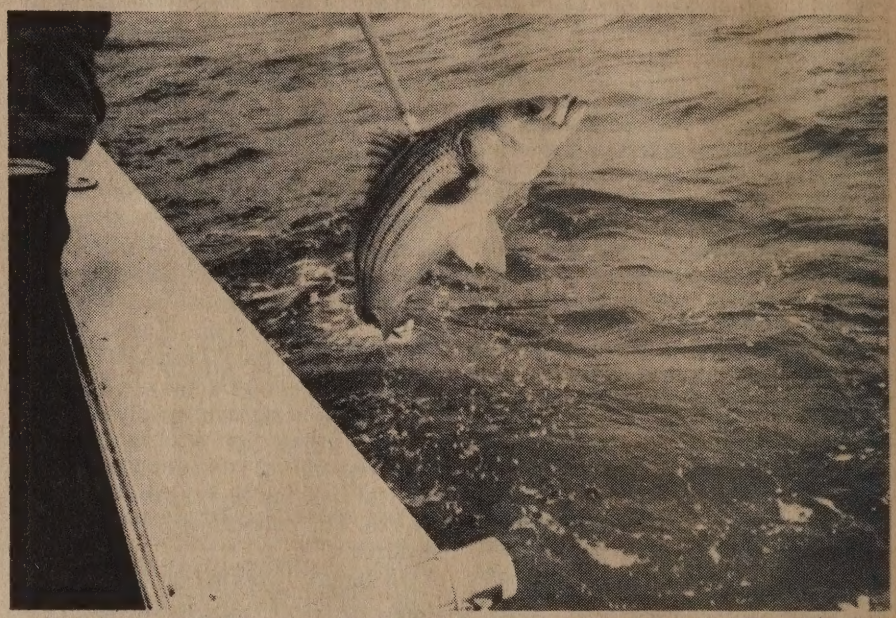
Fall Bass On Wire

by Bernie Schwartz



Wire lining with tubes, bucktails and swimming plugs is a deadly method of scoring with striped bass and blues during the fall run. (Photo by Dr. William A. Muller.)

There's no way I could be talked into going fishing at six in the morning. For three months I had been working seven days a week, getting up at the odd hour of five a.m. each day. This was my first day off and I was going to sleep. No way were they going to get me out of bed. No way!

The dawn was breaking just beautifully as I reached the dock that morning. Having been talked into coming down on humanitarian grounds, I didn't feel too badly. Someone had to help pull in all those striped bass and help feed our hungry relatives. Help was needed to win the bets between the competing boats at the Bay End Dock in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, N.Y. Oh, Yes. In good old Brooklyn. Yes, we do catch fish in Brooklyn. Besides other things.

The dock had that dull, silvery look of well-weathered wood and the ramp was slippery with dampness. There were about fifteen boats in various slips and five of them had their motors warming up. The wet smell of the dock was laced with the odors of fish and fuel. The fish-cleaning area gave off the sound of tinkling water and the scales from the previous day's catch gleamed faintly in the early light. It was going to be a great weather day, and the smell of the coffee and rolls I had brought were just added pleasures

Now don't believe I thought of all those things as I stood at the dock. It is now, in retrospect, that I can see, feel and think about the way things were. At the time, while I was ingesting the beauties of the area. I was also thinking what an idiot I was to be there at all.

I had brought nothing in the way of fishing gear with me. Everything these fellows had and used was in duplicate, or even triplicate. There was to be no going home if a rod or line was lost. My foul-weather suit, knee boots, and my indispensible Thermos jug, (filled with tinture of iodine and mud) were the only equipment I was requested to bring.

My Thermos was a special request. When the weather was cool there would be hot black coffee laced with the aromatic smell and body of annisette residing therein. It was there to awaken the flagging spirits and warm the cold hands and hearts of the wet-behinded and empty-headed men who go out in such weather.

Today was not going to be that kind of day, though. Light breezes prevailed and the sea looked calm and beautiful.

Richie and I cleared the dock right behind George and his friend, Frank. Both of us made the gas dock and we fueled up. We were getting dirty looks from the dockmaster because all we wanted was fuel and it was in short supply. The type of fishing we were going to do required no chum or bait. Wire line trolling from these fishing machines is one of the best producing methods for striped bass and blue fishing there is.

Quite a few of the felllows who fish this way build their own rods. They use carboloy guides so the wire line doesn't chew into the guides too easily. Medium weight trolling or so called boat rods are the most popular types. Richie has two duplicate sets of rods on the boat. One set is twenty-to thirty-pound class tackle and the other is forty-to fifty-pound class. Generally, it's possible to use comparatively inexpensive reels.

But most of the men use the best they can buy in the 3/0 and 4/0 class, usually a rapid-retrieve one to boot. They almost fill the reels with a good grade of monofilament line and tie on a small beaded swivel. They then attach the wire. If the fisherman is using 40 pound monofilament he will tie in 150 feet of 30 pound test wire. If he goes heavier, 50 pound mono and 40 pound wire is used,or 60 pound mono and 50 pound wire. In essence they tie in a wire line ten pounds lighter than the strength of the monofilament. In the area of wire the 150 feet is a sort of standard measure.

Trolling is done with all the wire and 15 to 30 foot of monofilament out. Or at least till the swivel hits the water. If you hit bottom at the rate of speed you are trolling either increase your speed or shorten the amount of wire you have out.

The wire line is usually a stainless alloy or monel line and generally comes in 100-yard spools. A previously-measured 150 foot stretch is

very helpful. Have a friend walk the line spool to the marked spot while you hold the reel(with wire attached). Then walk toward him, reeling in the wire. Cut the wire and you will have a spare line readily marked for when you lose the wire on the reel. And lose it you will, either through kinking or fatigue or, better yet, on an exceptionally large fish. Or worse, when stuck on some old wreckage on the bottom.

A four mile (approximate) rate of speed is advised. If you troll faster, and there are bluefish as well as bass in the area, you will catch more blues. The bass seem to like a slower moving lure. Incidently, do not attach your lure directly to the wire line. Attach another beaded swivel to the end of the wire, making sure the swivel is small enough to go easily through the guides. Attach at least 15 to 30 feet of regular monofilament leader to that, then attach the leader to your lure.

Oh, yes! I mentioned lure. That becomes a little ticklish, considering the number of lures on the market today. Bucktails, plugs, spoons, tubes, feathers, coat-hanger rigs, umbrella rigs, ad infinitum, ad nauseum.

Basically, and at this time of writing, (late spring, early summer), the most effective lure would be a one to three-ounce bucktail with a strip of porkrind on the hook. This is used with a short, soft jigging motion so the pork rind and lure do not double over the leader and become ineffective. I believe the lure acts with a shrimp-like appearence. A metal spoon approximately the size of the bait fish in the water (small herring, shiners, spearing, sand eels), is also very effective.

Surgical tube lures are extremely effective most of the time as well, especially in the massed umbrella-type units: When sand eels are in the water they are almost sure killers. Hooking into two or three bass or blues at the same time really can put a strain on your tackle as well as your arm and heart mussels.

Trolling with large swimming plugs, bunker spoons and other heavy hardware will generally produce larger fish but fewer of them. Which, of course, stand to reason because there are fewer larger fish.

Large two-hook surgical tubes are also great at times. The problem with articles like this is I never can tell when those times will be. I usually carry quite a few different lures, changing them quite often and changing the depths and lengths of line, as well as changing speed and direction of troll. This is important when you don't have the fish located.

That's another book, just locating the fish. Try and get information from other fisherman, tackle shops, livery stations or just generally knowledgeable people. General information is just about all you can expect to get. When you do hit fish, that's the time to be specific. Check the tide, take ranges, bearings on houses, buoys, jetties, steeples, bridges, anything that can bring you back to the same place on the same course. The fish have a tendency to congregate in certain areas and, unless you do get the specific ranges down, all you can expect to catch are the odd-ball fish working from one spot to another.

It really is hit and miss when you first start wire line trolling or, for that matter, whenever you begin any other type of fishing. But persistence, careful eyeballing, and listening usually begin to pay off pretty quickly.

The weather was really great as we rounded the end of Manhattan Beach, with its broken-down maritime piers. To the east, the Marine Parkway bridge was silhouetted under the dusky light and the lights of cars crossing it flicked in and out. To the west, Coney Island showed up with its amusements, parachute tower, and the ancient landmark of the Half Moon hotel.

We raced along (about 25 knots) on a southerly course, passing the round house (sewer outfall), crossing over to parallel the long rock jetty of Rockaway Inlet. Broken barges and other debris littered the rocks and, as we passed the rip at the end of it, two foul-weather suited men made the long walk and climb to fish its rip for bass. I knew just how they felt, having spent many a morning both foul and fair on its tip. This morning there was no fog, so the moan of the tower was quiet, but the red blinker was producing its coded light.

A few dips and bumps were produced by the rip as we passed through, and we were into the gentle swell and light seas between Ambrose Channel and the jetty; an area called the Tin Can Grounds. I had taken out the rods as we were moving along, spilled coffee over myself when we hit the rip, and now was ready to set out my line. The outfits (thirty class tackle) was already with the long leader and bucktail lures as I have described.

Letting wire out without kinking it or tangling it is an art in itself. Richie keeps the boat moving pretty fast so the line is under strain as it peels off the reel. Placing your thumb rather heavily on the reel spool will prevent the line from going out too fast and backlashing. A backlash with wire is

(**Continued on page 15.**)

Surf salad.

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Fisherman's Special to Montauk?

by Capt. George F. Glas

Over the winter there has been much talk in these parts about the possibility of the L.I.R.R. running a Fisherman's Special to Montauk again. Visions of the "glorious days" of the Special have been conjured up, but unfortunately by those who have had little or no experience in trying to sail in conjunction with that operation.

As a matter of fact, out of all the open boat captains presently operating at Montauk, there are only three who actually sailed boats out of the L.I.R.R. Dock: Capt. Dusty Doerzbacher, Capt. Al Bruhn, and myself.

Following the end of World War II, the fishing business started to come back to life and the L.I.R.R. was persuaded to resume operating the Fisherman's Special that had been so popular before the war. After the close of the first post-war season, the winter storms of '46-'47 did considerable damage to the Railroad Dock at Fort Pond Bay. The damage was so extensive, in fact, that the L.I.R.R. did not intend to run the Special in 1947, not wanting to expend any monies for dock repair. It was not until a group of boatmen, all members of an association called the Montauk Fish Harbor Club, held a meeting with railroad officials at the Jamaica Station office that we were able to get the train back in service. However, the goal was not achieved without making a number of very important concessions to the railroad.

A 1948 view of the open party boats at the L.I.R.R. Dock, Fort Pond Bay in Montauk.

For one thing, the boat owners agreed to repair the R.R. Dock at their own expense, and it proved to be quite an undertaking. We all pitched in, first combing the beach for lost planking and timbers that had been torn loose by the vicious northerly winds that pound into Fort Pond Bay. (Unless a man has lived through the nightmare of having to keep a boat docked beam to the sea there day after day, he can't fully appreciate the joy of sailing out of the protected harbor we now have at Lake Montauk).

With our own cars, we towed the planks and timbers off the beach and out onto the dock. With our own muscle-power we wrestled the unwieldy lumber into place. Somehow, we managed to get the dock ready in time for opening day. Oh, yes. The good old railroad helped. They supplied us with a keg of dock spikes, free.

In retrospect, the repair of the dock was as nothing compared to some of the other requirements. We had to guarantee the R.R. that we would have sufficient boat bottom to take care of all the passengers who rode the Special to Montauk. At first glance, this would seem to be a reasonable and proper requirement. However, it had a built-in zinger and, as it turned out, it was somewhat akin to having sold one's soul to the devil.

In order to comply with the agreement that there would be sufficient boat capacity to cover the train, the captains were not permitted to accept private group charters on train days, nor could they even allow any fishermen who had driven out by car to board the boats before the train arrived. That's still as it should be, you say. Well, let's examine how that worked in practice.

The Special would leave Jamaica at its appointed time, and pretty soon we'd get a count over the private railroad telephone telling us perhaps that there were some 800 people aboard. Wow! Everyone would get excited and purchase extra bait and additional supplies of all kinds, then work feverishly to get everything ready for the expected rush of fishermen. Around 8:00 A.M. the train arrived, grinding to stop in a cloud of smoke and steam. Before the air had cleared the fishermen were running hell-bent for the waiting boats; but the rush would be over as fast as it had begun. A snappy total of 150 to 200 fishermen had gotten off the train at the R.R. Dock. What happened to the rest of the people who were supposed to be on the train?

Well, maybe 150 had gotten off at Canoe Place, Hampton Bays, the stop before Montauk.' But that would still leave a sizeable number, wouldn't it? Oh yes, but after the fishermen got off at the R.R. Dock, there were still people left aboard the train. The bird watchers, the hikers, the cyclists, the picnickers, and even a couple of broads bent on

a night's career rode the Special the remaining distance into Montauk Station proper.

What, then, happened to the boatmen who were dutifully standing by? A few carried the load while the remainder sat at the dock after having turned down the car trade that didn't want to wait for the train and had already gone elsewhere. This happened repeatedly, except, of course, on holiday week-ends. The zinger, as you can see, had to do with what's in a name, the word "passenger," to be exact. While we had to agree to provide sufficient boats to cover every PASSENGER the Special carried, the railroad did not limit itself to carrying fishermen only. Any count that was given to the dockmaster did not reflect the actual number of fishermen who were aboard the Fisherman's Special.

Due to this inequitable condition, the boatmen eventually focused their attention on catering to the car-trade and freed themselves from dependency on the railroad to bring fishermen to Montauk. In the process of this transition, we obtained larger, faster, modern party boats to accommodate the fishermen. Even the State, at long last, improved the roads to the east end of Long Island. As a matter of fact, today a fisherman can drive out to Montauk, without exceeding any speed limits, faster than the L.I.R.R. can make the run. Ironically, after the R.R. "modernized" by changing from steam to diesel locomotives, it takes longer for a train than an automobile to get here.

Of course, the way it was back then, and the way it might be, could be two different things, and the Montauk Boatmen's Association is certainly willing to discuss any offers that the LIRR might make. On Jan. 31st, this year, the Supervisor of the Town of East Hampton, Judith Hope, called a meeting at Town Hall regarding the possible effects of the energy crisis on the coming tourist season. In addition to representatives of various organizations throughout the Town who were invited to attend, the manager of the Tour Department of the L.I.R.R., Mr. Tomlinson, was also present.

When the question of a Fisherman's Special came up, Mr. Tomlinson stated that his department would be willing to work with the boatmen on this problem. Capt. Brad Glas, who is the President of the Montauk Boatmen's Association, immediately and publicly invited Mr. Tomlinson to attend the next meeting of the MBA. Although he would not be able to attend personally due to prior commitments, Mr. Tomlinson agreed to have a representative from his office be present at the upcoming meeting. Due to the importance of the March meeting, the Honorable Perry B. Duryea, Jr., Speaker of the N.Y. Assembly, and Capt. John Suydam, President of the National Party Boat Owners Alliance, were also invited to attend in order that we might work out some program that would be beneficial to all concerned, especially the fishermen.

On the night of March 14th, Speaker Duryea arrived and Capt. Suydam arrived. All the boatmen showed up to talk about, among other things, the possible reinstatement of a Fisherman's Special. Everyone put in an appearance EXCEPT the man from the L.I.R.R. He didn't show up. Didn't call. Didn't even inform anyone that he could not make it. Someone quipped that maybe his train was late.

At any rate, he might be making like the Flying Dutchman, riding the rails forever, because we still haven't heard from him to date.

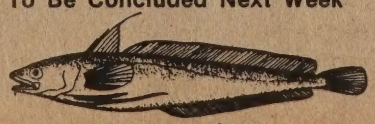
FALL BASS ON WIRE
(Continued from page 13.)

horrible. It's almost impossible and requires a good knowledge of wire handling to be able to take one out without kinking the wire. A kink is a sure break as soon as force is applied. I know. I lost one of the rigs later on that morning. The dirty look I received when I lost the rig reminded me that so-called experts are not infallible and also open to humiliation.

Our wire lines peeled off the reels, the small swivels passed the guides without incident and fell back till they hit the water. This was at Richies suggestion, and he proved right. "I'm following that rip, until we hit fish. One thing I've learned," he said, "It pays to read the water."

The rip was caused by the change of bottom contours, debris, wrecks or rocks. Fish congregate over these changes in water conditions and it pays to check places like them. "Reading the water," as Rich said, comes with experience. On rough days it's hard to do unless it's a big sea rolling over a sand bar type of thing. What you could do in check the area over on fairly calm days and take ranges and bearings, so even if it's a little sloppy you can surmise pretty closely where you are fishing.

To Be Concluded Next Week



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How To Catch Squid

by Whiting Evans

It was one day in the fall of 1973, near the end of September, while competing for the 28th consecutive year in the annual Martha's Vineyard Striped Bass and Blue Fish Derby that I learned the method of catching the kind of squid which serves as one of the best baits for blues and stripers. Using my new-found knowledge, I proceeded to catch a couple of dozen squid measuring about 6 inches long in less than a half hour. It was a lot of fun, too.

We — that is, Ralph A. Budde, also of Amityville, N.Y. and myself — had heard that you could catch squid off the docks at Menemsha Bight after sundown. We happened to be there in mid-afternoon, but we figured it would be a good idea to find out the "where" in advance. Ralph and I had known the Bight pretty well for quite a few years. We had been successful in catching lots of tinker mackerel from the rocks at each side of the inlet, as they preyed upon the big schools of shiners and sand eels constantly trying to elude the ever-hungry mouths of their predators.

As most all salt water fishermen, Ralph and I have caught occasional squid — while fishing for weakfish, or while bringing a tin jig through the water hoping for a hit from a striper or blue — quite by accident. We'd never set out to catch squid in particular.

Anyone who's ever done much surf casting anywhere in Martha's Vineyard waters knows of a guy named Dick Hathaway. Dick lives in Edgartown on the Vineyard and every year come September 15th, right through till October 15th, Dick stops working at work and starts working on the bass and blues. Occasionally, you'll see him in the daylight, parked somewhere at some favorite spot of his in his Jeep Wagoneer.

By the time the Derby was half over last year Dick had already caught and weighed in stripers of 48 pounds 6 ounces, 43 pounds, 41 pounds, 37 pounds, 35, 33, 31, several 30 pounders and innumerable bass in the upper 20's. A short space back I wrote that "...occasionally you'll see him in the daylight..." Fact of the matter is, if you had the night vision of an owl and happened to be where he is when the sun has been long abed, you'd see him plugging away at some inlet or other, or calmly watching his rods, waiting for one of them to indicate that his baited hooks of lively swimming eels, whole squids or juicy chunks of bloody mackeral had found its eager quarry.

It was only the day before Ralph and I had visited Menemsha that Dick had caught one of the really big cow bass. We'd heard about it and knew that he had caught this fish ona whole squid. We'd always believed in the saying "you can't argue with success", so we naturally tried to emulate his exploit. Ralph knew one thing about catching squid. He knew that the lure used had to be one which settled slowly in the water almost exactly similar to the action of a displacement sinker. He knew also that it should be anywhere from 2 to 4 inches in length and that its shape should be a sort of flattened ellipse.

No tackle store that we knew of sold squid lures: we had to make one ourselves. I looked around for a small piece of wood but, not finding one easily and knowing we had no tools such as a drill or wood rasp with us for use with wood, I had to use what we did have. And that turned out to be a small length of stainless steel leader wire, a treble hook of about size #4 and a small press-on sinker. What to use for the body of the lure? From out of my first aid kit I brought a roll of adhesive tape. That would have to do.

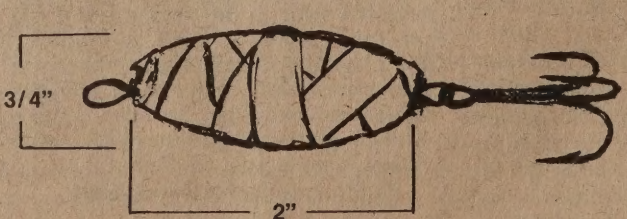
Using a length of leader wire about eight inches long, I twisted one end into a small snap. Then, about 2 or 2½ inches from a loop I twisted the other end into #4 triple hook. I then pressed a ¼-inch sinker around the wire near the triple hook. To form the body of the lure, I simply wound a considerable length of adhesive tape around the exposed portion of the wire leader until it was about½ to 9/16th inches in diameter in the middle portion. The lure was made! (See Diagram)

Fortunately for us, it worked! No doubt the very slow descent of the lure as it sank to the bottom was largely attributable to the entrapment of tiny air bubbles as I wound the adhesive tape around the leader wire.

Ralph and I noticed that a couple of other anglers were concentratedly lifting and lowering their rod tips off the edge of one of the docks. Sure enough, one of them was seen to have caught a squid. There we hied. I attached my lure onto the end of a very light mono line and dropped it into the slightly murky water so that it would sink to the bottom as near to under the dock as possible.

When it hit bottom — about 10 feet down and by now out of sight — I raised the tip slightly and let the lure sink again. The next time I raised the tip however, a squid had grabbed the lure and was struggling to get off. Reeling it to the surface, I could see it changing color from its almost transparent appearance to pink to deep red. At the time it struggled, it also exuded lots of black ink — its natural means of protection. Emerging from the water, it thereupon shot a goodly volume of water at my face. For the next half hour, I had myself a ball. Almost as soon as that lure was out of sight, a squid grabbed hold of it. In about a half hour I'd gotten a couple dozen of them. My lure had outfished every other being used. Ralph and I now had ourselves some of the finest bait for any kind of surf-caught fish.

So, over to Long Beach we rushed.



SQUID LURE
Body wrapped with layers of ½" white adhesive tape.

When we got on the beach to a certain "point", we found that seven or eight other buggies were already there and, of course, as anyone could expect, in the center at the point itself, with his three rods waiting expectantly, was none other than our friend Dick.

The sun was now about one hour away from the horizon and all were awaiting some kind —any kind— of action. There were now two dozen lines in the water. Some were using whole squid, others using live eels and others, hunks of fresh mackerel. Not one rod was seen to "go down". That is, no line was hit until, just as the sun touched the water, one rod was almost tipped over and pulled out to sea.

Need you ask who was seen to rush out from his warm car interior to save his rod and sink his hook? You are correct: Dick Hathaway. While all the others looked on at Dick's rod which was bent over as he walked with the tide down the beach, we knew that they, as we, had something gnawing at their vitals, hoping that a similar hit would happen to us.

After about 10 or 15 minutes Dick beached a beautiful bass. I forget now what it actually weighed, but it was about 28 pounds. No one else got a hit that evening — at that spot, at least.

After Ralph and I had eaten a couple of sandwiches, we drove back to Edgartown and picked up another "surf master", Stevie Gentle. "Stevie's" now in his thirties but his father, for whom he is named, is one of my oldest friends. To differentiate the two, I call his son by the diminutive.

Long before there was any surf casting with rod and reel — on Martha's Vineyard, that is — Steve and I used to catch blues at Katama Point — the Vineyard's southeast corner. Up until about seven or eight years ago Katama Bay used to have an exit or inlet at the Point. Now there is no inlet, as it has been closed because of tidal action and erosion. When it was open, however, the influx and the outgo of the water in the Bay, together with the fast-flowing tides over the Monomoy shoals, caused tidal rips of the most fishable character whatsoever to appear very close to the sandy beach.

I'm talking of the days fifty or more years ago. Then, Steve and I, and many of the Island's "natives", caught our blues by the "heave and haul" method. Each of us would have his own basket in which we'd keep one or more six-ounce diamond jigs. We'd tie one of these jigs to 12 feet of "snootin", which consisted of that many feet of 1/8-inch cotton line. To the end of that we'd splice about 300 or 400 feet of 12-thread linen line.

Each man would have about 50 feet of beach to himself. To make your cast (if you were right handed), you'd grab the heavy line about three feet from the jig with your left hand and start the swing over your head with a clock-wise motion. Your right hand would hold the heavy snootin' about 6 feet from the jig so that, after you got the jig circling overhead with your left hand, your right arm would pick up the momentum with a six-foot radius.

After practicing a great deal you'd be able to let your jig fly seaward for 300 or more feet. Then, as it hit the water, you'd start to haul it in hand over hand, walking up and down your 50 feet of beach, laying the line down in loops so that no one loop was exactly over the other — thus avoiding snarls. When you got to be expert enough so that when you had made your cast, and after the jig hit the water, the last loop of the line on the beach would actually leap off the beach into your expectant hand.

Believe you me, we caught a lot of fish in this manor. Only trouble was we'd have to trudge three miles through the softest sand imaginable to get back to our parked car.

Stevie never had to do any of this heavin' and haulin'. But, like his Dad, he's one of the best fishermen on the beach that I've ever known.

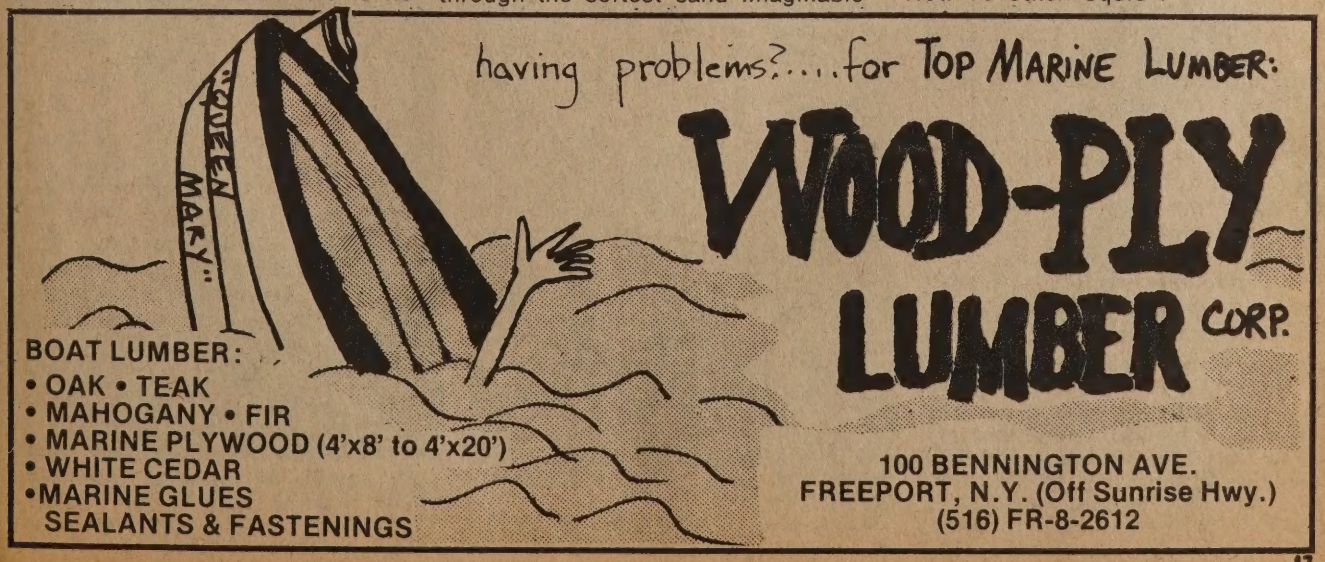
So, after Stevie joined us that evening, we drove onto South Beach somewhere near Tisbury Pond. We'd heard that one of the biggest bass caught during the Derby had been landed there the night before. Others, plenty others, had heard the same story, you can betcha. There was group after group of buggies lined up along the ocean front that night, but we still managed to find ourselves a good hole.

After baiting up with our freshly-caught squid and mackerel, I give you my solemn word that, almost from the time we got our first line in the water, we were so busy with the hits we got and the giant weakfish we caught that each of us just got too pooped to pop.

At one point I had a fish on which I, at first, figured to be the grand-papa of the prize winner Dick had caught! But, when I soon learned that it didn't act like a bass should have acted, my excitement abated somewhat. I turned out to be a 45 pound angler fish — probably the ugliest creature the ocean has to offer. They do say, however, that the meat from its "wings" is a gourmet's delight.

One other fish caught that evening more than bears mention. This fish won my friend, Ralph, the first prize for the day — cash in the sum of thirty dollars. He was using a nice, gory piece of fresh mackerel on one of his lines. Suddenly, that rod of his went over (what a lovely sight!) and he grabbed it in just enough time to sink the hook. After a perfectly swell battle he brought in a bluefish weighing just 15 pounds, eight ounces. Not to be sneezed at!

Well, at least you now know that it took an awful lot of words to tell you "How To Catch Squid".



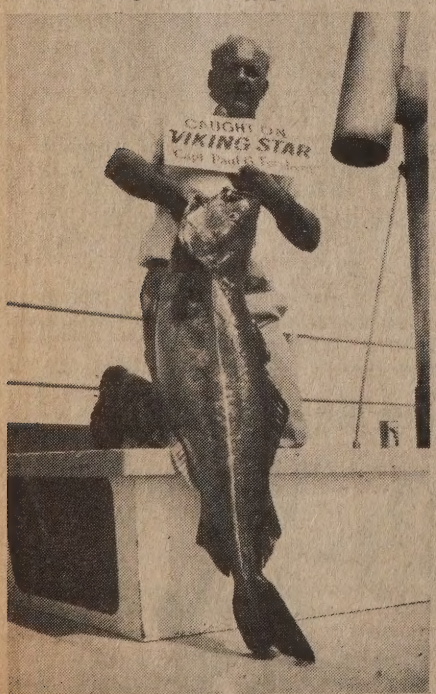
SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

(Fishing photos must be sharp, clear, and black-white. We cannot use color prints due to printing problems, so please do not send them. Address photos to: FISHING REPORT, The Long Island Fisherman, P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.)

MONTAUK

Bob Keller at **Lake Montauk Marina** reports red hot porgy fishing right now. Striped bass and bluefish trolling is another good bet. These fish are deep and taking bucktails. Try off the Point, Jones and the Pollack Rip. The chummers are hitting some big blues on the south side of the Point. Bob went out early Sunday morning and caught 10 striped bass to 20 lbs. and 11 bluefish.

Johnny Kronuch's Tackle Shop reports a slight improvement in the surf action. For the amount of anglers working the surf a lot more fish should be coming out. The biggest of the week weighed in at 18 lbs. Saturday saw the start of some good weakfish action. Four to five pound weakfish were hitting chrome jigs in the surf along the south shore.



"Harvest Moon" Saler hefts the 50 lb. cod that got him $621 in pool money on the Viking Star's Sept. 8th Nantucket wreck trip. Over 6 tons of cod and pollock were taken on the trip, including a 434 lb. pollock taken by Don Bedford that is a candidate for the I.G.F.A. All Tackle category.

Nille Rizoz, left, took this 48 lb. cod and 17 others aboard the Peconic Queen II at Coxes Ledge. Frank DeLucio, right, had 15 cod.

Capt. John Sweetman of the charterboat **Ebb Tide** reported all around good fishing activity, blues, bass, porgies, fluke—anything you want is out there now. If you want fluke you better make it this week according to John as it might be the last time around for them. Striped bass action is good at night and early morning trolling. These fish range from 10 to 30 lbs. Blues are in pretty good although you may have to hunt for them. The porgies are all over the bottom.

The **Viking Skipper** reports that you can't miss on the porgies. They are from Great Eastern Rock to the south side of the Point. The porgies are in solid and the minimum catch is 30 fish. These are nice big but not humpback porgies. Up at the North Grounds some sea bass are being caught. Hardly any blackfish were caught this past week, but while the porgies are here you may as well concentrate on them.

The **Hel-Cat** continues to be a wonderfully stable platform for the press photographers filming the America Cup series of races. She will continue to do this until the America Cup race series is over.

In the meantime Capt. Brad Glas with the **Helen II** will take over the Race bluefishing. The Race is loaded with big bluefish and they are being caught by the dozens. On Sunday he had the Limar Elevator Company as a charter. They made a drift between 9 A.M. and noon in which time they used over 300 lbs. of herring. The mate and Capt. Glas were constantly gaffing blues of 10 lbs. and better. When the **Hel-Cat** resumes its normal running the **Helen II** will run open boat during the week to Block Island for codfishing.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Star** reports good codfishing at Coxes Ledge. Flo Enrich of Clayton, N.J. won the pool with a 45 and 40½ lb. cod.

The **Viking Starlite** is porgy fishing and Capt. Forsberg said it can't be any better. Nightime bluefishing remains excellent.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand of the **Promised Land Fishing Station** reports continued good porgy fishing. Some small sea bass are mixed in with these along with occasional black. Those 1 & 2 lb. blues are still around near Cartwright and Hicks Islands. They are sometimes spotty but hit well when found.

SAG HARBOR

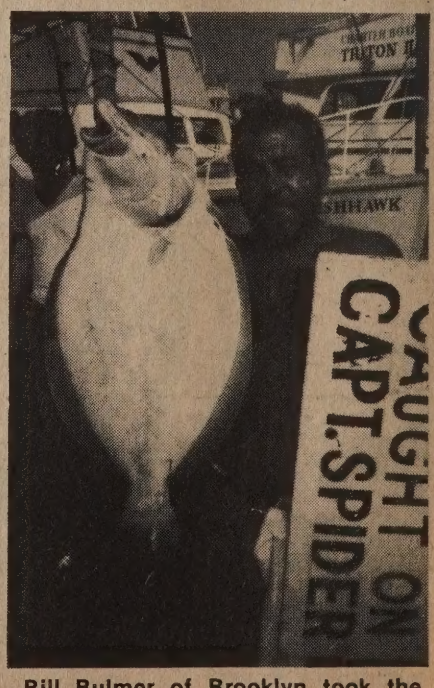
Weaks have been so-so says Helen Jacobsen at **Noyac Marina**. Tuesday saw her family catch a load of them but not too many came in for the rest of the week. Porgy fishing is very good and quite a few blowfish have also been caught.

SHINNECOCK

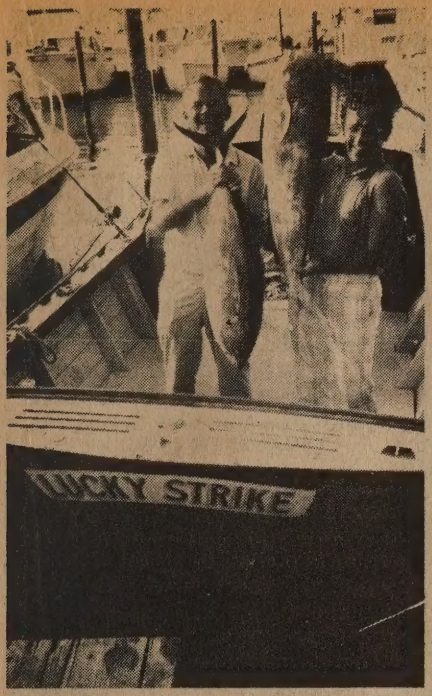
Capt. Clark Bellows Sr. reports continued excellent weakfishing for the **Capt. Clark II**. They had over 160 weaks for 19 fares on Sunday. The **Capt. Clark I** loaded up on porgies and some blacks of good size were caught. While the weaks and porgies hold up Capt. Bellows will hold off on what looks like a promising blackfish season.

MORICHES BAY

Nancy at **Skidmores** said there is great fishing in the hole at buoy 42. There are weaks taking squid or



Bill Bulmer of Brooklyn took the pool recently aboard the "Capt. Spider" out of Montauk with this 15½ lb. doormat fluke.



Kevin Kenney & friend caught a 28½ lb. Dolphin & some Yellowfin Tuna fishing out of Shinnecock on Capt. Ken Turco's charterboat "Lucky Strike".

shrimp lures and averaging 5-10 per boat. Sea bass catches average about 40-80 along with a dozen or two of porgies.

Chet of **B&B Tackle** said the fluke have slacked off and the flounders are improving. Plenty of snappers are around. Crabs are abundant. This past week big bluefish of 14 to 18 lbs. showed up outside of the inlet. Football size tuna are being picked up in 140 feet of water while the sharks are closer to the beach in 90 to 100 feet. Bass sharpies are picking up quite a number of stripers inside the bay using clams, eels or plugs. Ask Chet he knows where.

Capt. Ron Schlueter of the **Alma** reports they did very well with the fluke on Saturday. They were drifting the west cut from buoy 36 on down. Sunday saw a mixed bag with porgies, blacks and blows being taken in the old and new cut and on the west side of the rocks in the inlet.

WEST SAYVILLE

Youngs Fishing Station in Sayville reports the bay is alive with all kinds of fish. He had fluke, blues, weaks, blows and kings all hitting on clams. Fluke are in the channel at buoy 30. Weakfish were south of Bayport. Bluefish of 3 or 4 lbs. were south of Sayville near Fire Island.

CAPTREE

The **Capt. Joseph Fleet** reports spotty bluefish action. They hit well when they are found. The fluke fishing is tremendous. Fluke are hitting well in Fire Island inlet and on the outside. Six to eight pound fluke are being picked up quite regularly on the outside.

Capt. Swanson II said the fluking is excellent. They are working both inside the inlet and outside. The fluke go from 2-3 lbs. and up. On Thursday Mrs. Davis from N.Y.C. caught a 10 lb. 12 oz. fluke. The fish are schooling up to move out.

Wayne Westerlind of the **Capt. Rod** said the fluke fishing is fair to good. They are working the whole inlet area and are getting good catches of nice size fish. They have had some eight pounders and he has seen some ten pounders laying on the dock.

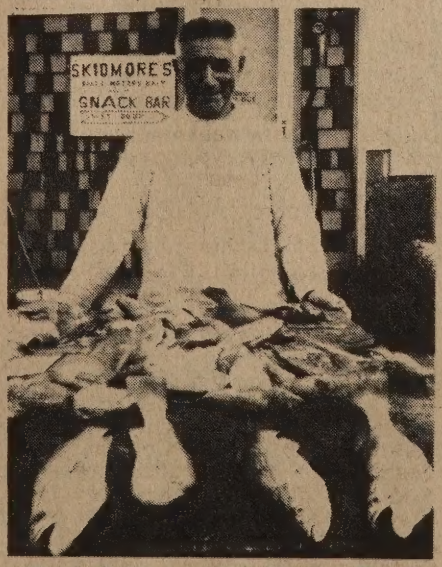
George Tweedy said the **Capt. Scotty** will change to wreck fishing on Wednesday. Izzy Figuero of the Bronx took the pool with a 49½ lb. cod and clinched it with 34 lb. cod as a runner-up. His friend Gomez had the next highest with a 22 lb. pollack. All together 30 fish were caught.

Capt. Hubert of the **Speedy V** has a good week bluefishing. Over the weekend while fishing the same wrecks diving parties made fishing difficult. During the week the catches were from 150 to over 400 blues.

BABYLON

Capt. Frederick of the **Flying Dutchmen** has just repowered with new engines. Over the weekend he took the boat out for shakedown trials and found the boat much faster and better handling. Now he can do some serious offshore fishing. After the shakedown he fished Fire Island inlet where they had four fluke in an hour.

Ernest Langstone out on the "Small Fry" took a 81 lb. wahoo on a mackeral baited shark rig S.E. of Fire Island inlet in 150' of water, Sun., Sept. 15. (Called in by Fred Kamerer of Babylon Tuna Club.)



Hank Schlanger of Mastic Beach caught these sea bass, porgies and weak fish by buoy 43 in 12 foot of water on worms and squid in Moriches Bay. Photo courtesy of Skidmores Fishing Station.

Jean Principe at **Augie's Tackle Shop** said offshore action was nil. Outside of the inlet the action was mostly fluke. James McCormack of West Islip caught a mixed bag on Sunday. He had blues, striped bass, sea bass and fluke. One fluke was 12 lbs. and the others were 5 or 6 lbs. Snappers have cooled off with the weather but the people tell Jean that the crabs practically crawl up the dock.

Mark Wagner of Massapequa took this 42½ lb. bass on a live eel in the State Channel. Photo courtesy of Causeway Bait & Tackle.

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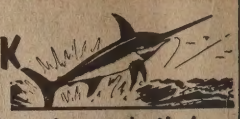

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Manny LaRussa of Wantagh took this 10¼ lb. fluke on a smelt by the Coast Guard Station in Jones Inlet. Photo courtesy of Causeway Bait & Tackle.

LINDENHURST

Charlies Bait & Tackle said they are picking up weakfish in the hole by the Lighthouse on the inside of the bay. These are taking snappers. On the artifical reef near there the anglers are starting to pick up blacks on fiddlers. The blacks can also be picked up at the Sore Thumb and at Robert Moses bridge.

Snappers were never better and crabs are excellent. John Jr. told us that the **Sea Horse** were catching loads of fluke from 5 to 9 lbs. on the outside. They were fishing south of the fish pound nets. Mixed in were hundreds of porgies which were taking blood worms while the fluke were hitting the squid.

AMITYVILLE

Marie at **Combs Bait & Tackle** reports great snapper fishing from the docks. The crabbing is excellent both from the docks and on the flats. Sea bass and blacks at the Four Corners while sea bass are also at Squaw Island. Surfishing is starting to come alive. Using live eels at night is most productive and the striped bass run 8 lbs. and up. Weakfish are hitting the Hopkins 2B lure in the East-West channel from Unqua Point to the Captree bridge but at night mostly.

SEAFORD

Lou Wauser Bait & Tackle reports snappers and crabs are excellent catches. Fluke are still in the bay and moving out through Jones inlet. The striped bass are responding well to clam chumming as well as bunkers and eels around the bridges. Field nine and Cedar beach fishermen are picking up bass on line eels and plugs.

WANTAGH

Frank at **Causeway Bait & Tackle** said there was a little bit of everything around. Porgies have been taken at the Meadowbrook bridge using clams. Also taken at the same time was a few sea bass and blackfish along with one weak. Flounders are less than fais but if it continues cold will really start. Fluke are still being picked up in the bay but are a big question mark. Small blues of 2 or 3 lbs. are being taken from the beaches. Snappers are good. Striped bass are here and there with reports of 30 pounders being taken on eels.

Tom Ferrara with Mako shark taken on "Charlie's Bait," out of Lindenhurst. This 140 lb. shark took a dead bunker drifted in 145' of water 150° out of F.I. Inlet. The catch was made Sept. 8, 1974. Photo courtesy of Bob Reinhart.

LINDENHURST

Dukes Tackle Shop reports fluke fishing in F.I. Inlet very good this weekend as proven by Joe Uss's catch of 14 fluke from 2¾—5¼ lbs., caught on squid. Also large weaks off Ocean Beach on sand worms and especially on live snappers. Ted Davis and Walt Arnold of Lindenhurst reported catching 110 lbs. of blacks inside, on the artifical reef. Striped bass are still being caught chumming clam bellies under the F.I. Bridge, fish 3-12 lbs.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

(Fishing photos must be sharp, clear, and black-white. We cannot use color prints due to printing problems, so please do not send them. Address photos to: FISHING REPORT, The Long Island Fisherman, P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.)

FREEPORT

Anthony's Fishing Station reports fluking is still good in Jones Inlet and from the Loop Bridge on up. Good weakfishing at the bridges in the dawn hours and evenings at high tide, using squid strips 4' off the bottom. A few small flounder in Swift Creek.

The infamous G. Korn & sons Jeff and Larry rented one of **Nicks fishing station's** John Dory skiffs and on Sat. had a mixed bag of fluke, snappers ans sea bass fishing local spots. Korn, noted CPA, reportedly had little trouble counting his fish.

Capt. Richie of the open boat **Starstream II** reports very good bluefishing at Seabright, which is only a 1 hr. run for him. His fares have been loading up on slammers to 18 lbs.

The **Capt. Jack VI** has been doing some hot fluking this week at Cholera & local wrecks, with a few 9 pounders taken. Night blues have been fabulous, says Capt. Johnny.

"Huge slammers" says Capt. Mike of the charter boat **Empire**. Seabright has been rewarding his charters with fish to 16 lbs.

POINT LOOKOUT

The **Angler II** has been into loads of big blues at Cholera 14-20 pounds. The weekdays are just fantastic, says Capt. Art White. Albacore of 15 lbs. are also being taken in the shick.

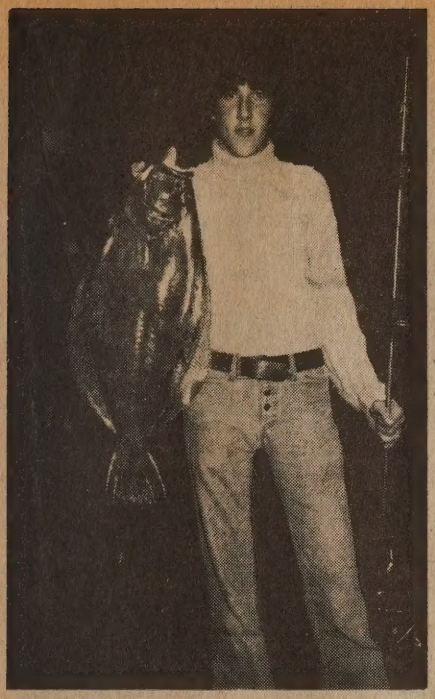
Marilyn at **Ed's Fishing Station** reports a true shmorgasboard for the fishermen. Some fluke (which is slowed now), kings, snappers, blacks, flounder (starting), sea bass. Weaks in the Lido surf for bigger boats.

L.I. Sea Clam reports fluke at the Stone Barge and jigged at the bottom at Cholera. Some tuna over 100 lbs. during the week at the mud hole. A 32 lb. striper was taken this week on bellies at the Wantagh Bridge.

Junior II reports that he loaded up with big sea bass and porgies at the Stone Barge over the weekend. He also ran on Sun. to Cholera for big choppers to 18 lbs., where a couple of bonito & 2 fluke, one 10 lbs. were taken.

LONG BEACH

Tom at **Long Beach Sports Marina** says fluke are still in Reynolds



Peter Brown of Brooklyn hefts this 9½ pound fluke he caught off the Coast Station in Jamaica Bay 6 snapper. The fluke was 31" long, 13" width and 2½" thick.

Channel and porgies can be fished off his pier. Bernie Hage of Long Beach is taking stripers on bellies at the Atlantic Beach Bridge. Snappers in abundance. Blacks are good at the Silver Pt. Jetty. Charter boar **Skipper** bringing home big blue catches.

ISLAND PARK

Capt. Clem of the **Commodore** reports very good catches of porgies, sea bass and fluke at local wrecks, with fluke about ready to move out. Sun. saw 12 fluke average per fare. The rental skiffs at the **Commodore Fishing Station** are bringing back weaks and porgies, some flounder & buckets of snappers.

Beckmann's Tackle Shop in Lynbrook reports bass are around, but they're spotty the Debs Inlet jettys are producing 2-12 lb. schoolies in A.M. hrs. on cast plugs, both poppers and swimmers. Fluke action spotty, but plenty of snappers and snapper blues. Mucho porgies and all over, at that. Woodmere and Hewlett are hot. Crabs are eating up the piers.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Amberjack IV reports fantastic bluefishing off Jersey. A 22 lb. 4 oz. blue was taken on Sat. Fish are averaging 17-20 lbs., a little smaller at times. "A true mohawking" says Capt. Jim Ardolino.

Apache III is also mohawking blues in the 15 lb. class, at Shrewsberry in the Rattle snake area. "These fish are monsters" says Capt. John. Also bonito and albacore are visitors in the slick.

Mike's Tackle Shop reports very good bluefishing off Seabright, and Nortons Point for jigging and whole bunker on butterfish on the bottom. Porgies coming in very good, in mixed sizes—nothing tiny, at wrecks and the Tin Can grounds. Fluke east of Tin Can 2-4 lbs. up to the past weekend, and were spotty.

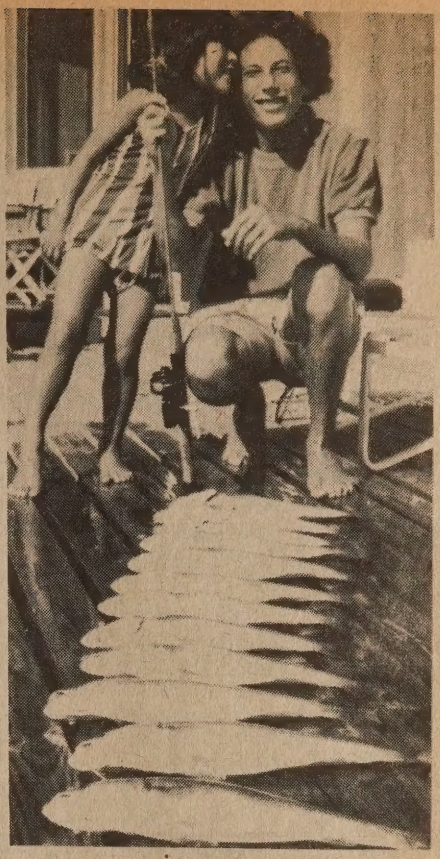
Striped bass being taken off the jetty, drifting live bait. Fish 8-20 lbs. Also working is bucktailing on the shoals and umbrellas at In Can on morning tides. Sea bass and porgie catches are very good.

Vinny at **Salvo's Bait & Tackle** reports lots of weaks and blues inshore: try the seawall between 59 st. and Bay Pkwy. These are 10-15 lb. fish (blues) but is tapering off so "hurry on down". Use bunker backs on a wire leader on the bottom. Just a smattering of fluke in the offshore channels. Bass under the Verenzano Bridge for boaters drifting worms on the bottom, but this also, is tapering off.

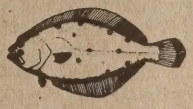
Blues at Norton's Pt. is "fantastic", to 18 lbs. Tuna at the Ba Buoy, up to the weekend. The open boat catches are very good, with the bigger fish being taken during the day. Some bass at Bay 8 St. in the A.M. on small floating Rebels (5½").

ATLANTIC BEACH

Lem at **Hennings Fishing Station** says fluke are in the inlet and snappers in Reynolds Channel. Blacks on fiddlers at the jettys and bridges. Sea bass too. Small flounder are starting to show, but let 'em grow a bit, guys. Striped bass at the Atlantic Beach Bridge on bellies, outgoing tide. The Lido and Long Beach jetties



Jeff Salkin and his sister Jenny ham it up over the 12 weakfish he jigged on Hopkins in the Five Island Area.



Left to right: Kim Lepper, 17, Mike Lepper, 13, Debi Folet, 10, and Bill Foley, 5. The youngsters were winners in the Atlantic Beach Rod & Gun Club's Annual Children's Day Contest. The bluefish were all taken on Lupo umbrella rigs aboard the "Kim".

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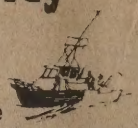

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sould be fished for bass. Geo. Oliver took a 45¾ lb. bass on a live eel in early A.M. Giant tuna at the mudhole.

Capt. Ron Lepper of the **Kim** called to report giant tuna at the Mud hole 300-700 lbs. On Sunday, he counted 136 boats out there for the making of a tuna on white, and I don't mean the bread. Bass are available on the beaches with live eels, to 45 lbs. in the Long Beach area. Tuna, bonito and albacore being trolled south and east of the BA buoy. Capt. Lepper has tuna dates available.

JAMAICA BAY

Bill at **Noehren's Tackle** reports good fluking at the Marine Pkwy. Bridge on live killies. That has been hot all week. Snappers at North Channel Bridge on live killies. Crabs holding well, in nets and traps. Sand porgies off of the North and South Channel Bridges. All holding up well. Some weakfish are there forr the pros. Some bass at the North Channel Bridge on strip baits.

STATEN ISLAND

Lennie at **Santos Sports Shop** reports blues at South Beach and the Berger Ave. stormsewer is consistent with fish on bait to 12 lbs. Now, days are also productive; but with smaller 3-6 lb. fish. Cedar Grove, New Dorp and Oakwood Beach for schoolies to 6 lbs. in he late eve. and at nite, try poppers or worms on the bottom. Great Kills Park for fluke and large snapper blues. Blue claw crabs in the harbor. Princess Bay for small stripers and weaks. Mt. Loretta—Princess Bay areas for blues and weaks trolled Bingle Bananas. Buoy 39 try trolling worms for weaks. So. Beach for boaters, weaks & small blues. Hoffman & Swindburn Islands for schoolie bass. Anchor and drift worms to the rocks or troll umbrellas. Nortons Pt. for deep trolled blues.

Bill Haros took these two fluke, 9 lb. 4 oz. and 9 lb. 7 oz., aboard the "Elsie K" out of Sheepshead Bay.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

FISHING REPORT

(Fishing photos must be sharp, clear, and black-white. We cannot use color prints due to printing problems, so please do not send them. Address photos to: FISHING REPORT, The Long Island Fisherman, P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.)

GREENPORT

Art Whites Bait Shop reports very good blue fishingat the east side of Gardiners Island offshore. The Brand X loaded up on the blues out there. Closer in to Gardiners the Wilheric was loading up on porgies. Striped bass fishing is picking up along the beaches. One angler weighed in a 45 lb. striped bass that he caught off the golf course in East Marion. Blackfish are just starting at Gull Island.

ORIENT POINT

Very good porgy fishing in Pettys Bight according to **Port of Egypt Fishing Station**. Quite a number of small sea bass are also being taken there. In the bay the porgies are at buoy 16 and the old lighthouse east of Greenport. The blackfishing is very good at Mulford Point and the Orient Point lighthouse but are still small. Blues are being taken in Plum Gut on rigged bunker and mackeral. These blues go from 6 to 16 lbs.

JAMESPORT

Warren's Tackle Center of Aquebogue said the porgies were very good around Robins Island. The weakfishing dropped off over the weekend. Lots of big blues being taken on chunk bunker. You have to fish this bait on the bottom off the Mattituck breakwater. Striped bass fishing has been quiet.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Dicks Sporting goods said the beach fishing for blues is just terrific. Most of this action takes place from just before sunset until the wee hours of the morning. They will hit some lures but bunker or porgy bait on the bottom is best. The trollers must work in very close to the beach to get any action. Fluke action is pretty good. **Joe Lambert** of Lake Grove fished the inlet and he had a couple of nice fish. Joe wasn't content with just fluke. He and his brother Bill took their freshwater outfits to the Artist Lake in Middle Island where they hiked into some nice bass. Joe said the plastic worm just drives the bass crazy during the day. When the sun starts to set

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PORGIES-BLACKS $6 ½ DAY $10 WHOLE DAY
8AM—12 Noon & 1PM—5PM Sat., Sun. & Hol.

PORGIES-BLACKS $7 ADULTS • $5 Sr. Citizens & Children
10AM—2PM Monday thru Friday

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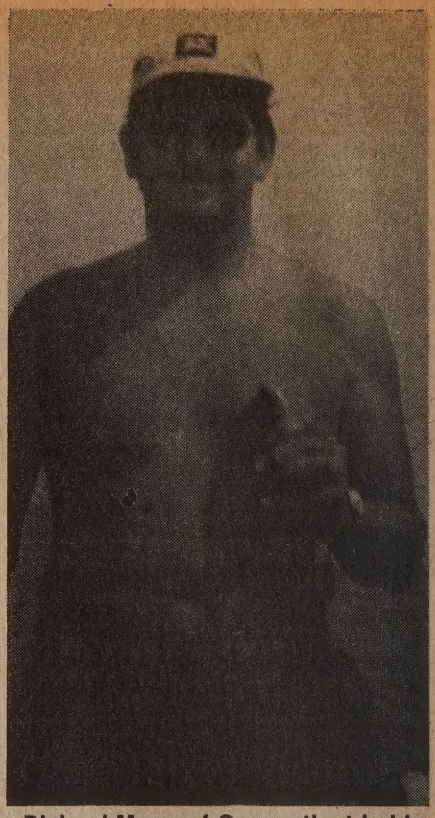

Richard Marra of Connecticut holds a 5½ lb. blackfish he caught off Greens Ledge Light.

Port Jeff Ace

OPEN BOAT • DAILY 8AM

"COME TO WHERE THE FISH ARE"

PORGIES
FLUKE
BLACKS
8 A.M.

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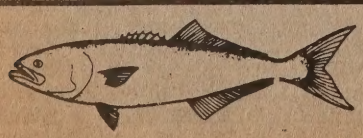


switch over to surface lures and big ones.

PORT JEFFERSON

Bob at **Plaza Sports** said there were big blues in the harbor being caught on bunker chunks on the bottom. A red Tri-Fin eel trolled on the bottom is also productive. Porgies are all over the inlet and taking sand worms. Conscience Bay has been giving up striped bass to line eel dunkers in the evening.

SMITHTOWN BAY

Pat at **Smithtown Sports** said they trolled some small 5 and 6 lb. blues off Setauket. You must troll deep. They were using the Tri-Fin eel. Porpoise channel in Stony Brook yielded up some nice 5 and 6 lb. striped bass on Sunday. They took poppers thrown at them at night.

NORTHPORT

Ted Bowman's Sporting Goods reports good bluefishing when you find them. They are now mostly outside of the harbors and still want bait. None of these fish go less than 6 lbs. Porgies are plentiful off the beaches and the blacks are starting to show around the rocks.

HUNTINGTON

The Ever-Ready Fleet reports excellent bottom fishing. The blue-

fishing which slowed a bit, Capt. Don says, should pick up again full swing any day. Capt. Don is resuming the Fri., Sat. & Sun. nite 8 P.M.—midnite blue trip effective immediately.

Four Winds Tackle said clam chummiing off Eatons Neck has produced loads of 4-10 lb. striped bass. Some biggies to 20 or more lbs. have also been taken. Worm trollers at Target Rock and off Marchall Field continue to get their share of bass. Blues on wire with tubes or bucktails between buoys 11B and 13. Very little action on blues in the harbors. Good porgy and blackfishing at Lloyds Point and North of Eatons Neck.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

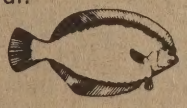
Veterans Fishing Station reports good bluefishing outside of the harbor. Snappers are all over the harbor. Porgies at the lighthouse on West Neck Road.

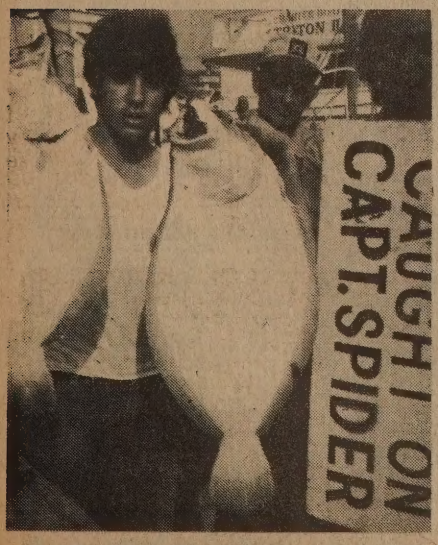
GLEN COVE

Glen Cove Sports said the blue fish are widely ranging now but are there. Big tubes or spoons down deep. Use your depth finder to locate these fish. Bass are taking fresh bait such as bunker or fish store bought mackeral. Snappers are as many as you want.

CITY ISLAND

Jacks Bait & Tackle reports plenty of porgies around eagerly taking worms or clams. Bluefish action hass ben good in the early morning by the Whitestone or the Throggs Neck bridges. Blackfish are just starting to be picked up around the rocky areas. Snappers are nice and big now as well as plentiful.





Morris Mizrachi and his son Victor with the 8½ and 14¾ lb. fluke they took aboard the "Capt. Spider" out of Montauk. Capt. Ed Hegner can be seen in the background.

NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

SANDY HOOK

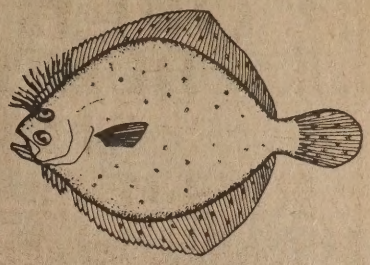
Stripers are inside the Hook by the ammo pier, and they're up to 50 pounds. Yellow surface plugs at night are the ticket. Sandworms and killies are taking weakfish, at Flynn's Knoll. Chunk bunker scored on a 348 pound tuna on the outside. Plenty of blues at Shrewsbury Rocks.

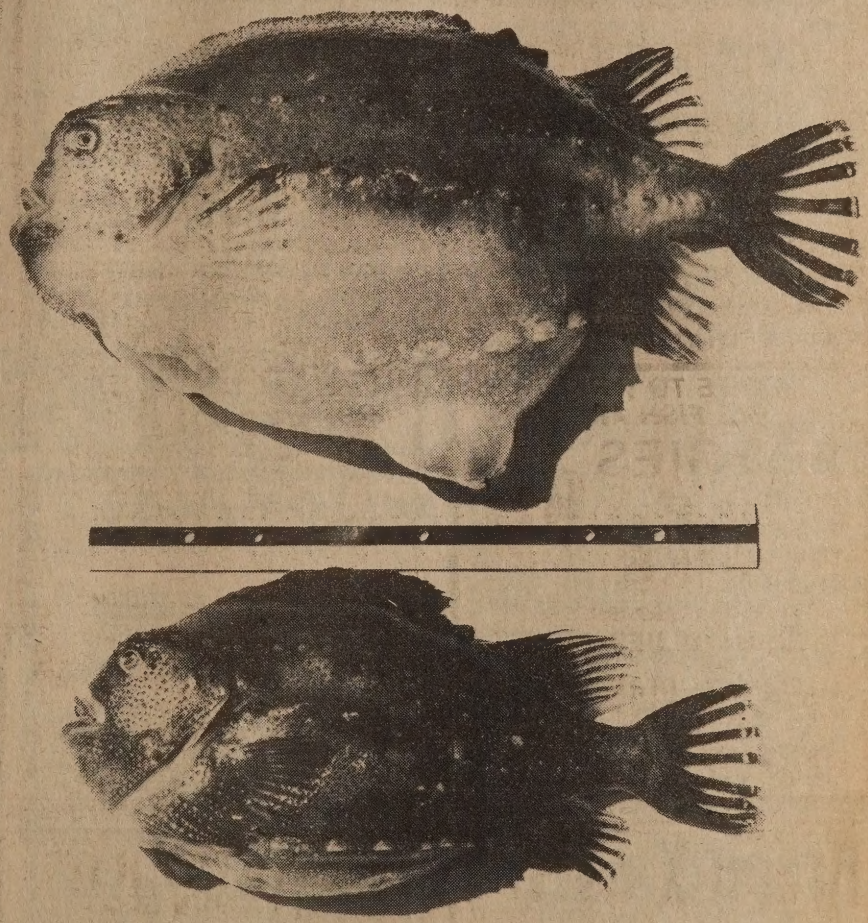
SEABRIGHT

LLots of striped bass. The Sady Hook Park produced a 34 pounder on a Polaris popper. Bass are plentiful along the surf, plugs are producing.

LONG BRANCH

Pencil poppers and weighted swimmers have been scoring inshore around Monmouth Beach. Blues and weaks are mixed in.





TOURIST FROM THE NORTH — Two lumpfish or lumpsuckers in a spawning condition (female at top, male below) were captured recently in Fort Pond Bay, Montauk, N.Y., by trap fisherman James W. Lester, and brough to the New York Ocean Science Laboratory for identification and autopsy. Although lumpfish are quite common off the coastline of Canada's maritime provinces and New England, they are taken rarely on Long Island when they move inshore to brees in the spring. The 11.5-inch male in the photo weighed 2 pounds, 5 ounces, and the 15.5-inch female weighed 6 pounds. The roe in the female weighed 1 pound, 5 ounces, and contained 125,000 eggs which accounted for 22% of the total body weight.

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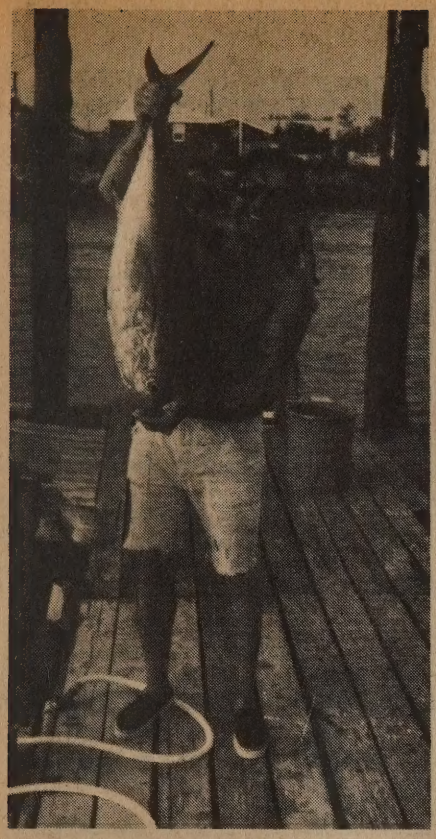

Sal Salvaggio with his first Tuna (33 lbs.) caught while chumming a tthe Mud Hole Sept. 1 on brother-in-laws boat Niks Sia.

Nancy Peracchion of Nanciner Rest in Great Neck caught this 11 lb. fluke out of Captree on Capt. Rod's open boat Aug. 19.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

ROWAYTON

Scott's Coce off Darien is producing some fast and furious bluefishing on surface plugs. Small bass are also mixed in.

WESTPORT

Penfield Reef produced some excellent weakfishing for bottom fisherman. Bluefish and an occasional bass at Combo in the early mornings.

NORWALK

Trollers at 11-B have been scoring on big blues regularly. The triple rig has been the thing. Bass are mixed in.

STAMFORD

Fantastic porgie fishing throughout the area. Blues and bass hit well in the morning and the evening.

Smilin' Bills and umbrella rigs are paying off for wire liners. Flounders and blacks are beginning.

BRIDGEPORT

Seaside Park produced bass on drifted sandworms. Porgies at Penfield. Blues at the mouth of the Housatonic on poppers. Weakfish at buoy 18.

STRATFORD

Big blues in the river. Porgies excellent and bass steady with fish in the teens. Blues are down deep, for trollers and bait fishermen.

GREENWICH

Harbor blues at the mouth of Greenwich Cove. Porgies are excellent, plenty of small bass.

WESTHAVEN

Bluefish in the channels at City Point, Faulkners Island and the Housatonic River. Big porgies at the breakwater Charles Island, and Branford Reef.

Jimmy Griffin (center) of Elmont took this 41 lb. striped bass in the Pollack Rip at Montauk aboard the "Osprey".

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LONG ISLAND SURF FISHING CLUB (ASTORIA) SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

The Long Island Surf Fishing Club of Astoria (Queens), N.Y. is open for new members. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month in "Turn Hall" in Astoria at 8:15 p.m. For further info. please call Roy Harlick at 212-457-8682 after 6 p.m.—any night.

SAVE OUR BAYS ASSOCIATION

A program on the marine environment was presented to a large group of interested conservationist at the meeting that started off the Suffolk Chapter, in Sayville, on July 29. Those wishing to help out in this new venture on Eastern Long Island are asked to contact the Suffolk Chairman, Joe Quintana, at 567-3319, or write to Soba, 52 Pine St., Sayville, L.I. 11782.

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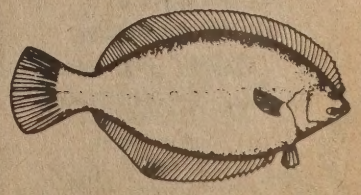

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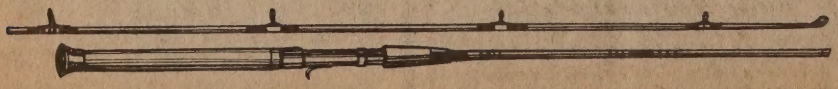

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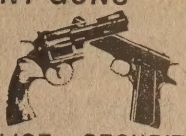

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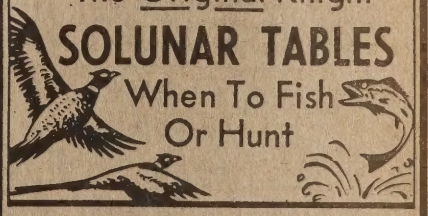

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	7:35	1:55	8:10	2:30
Fri.	8:45	3:00	9:10	3:25
Sat.	9:35	3:50	10:05	4:25
Sun.	10:40	4:55	11:05	5:20
Mon.	11:35	5:50	11:55	6:15
Tues.	—	6:35	12:30	7:00
Weds.	12:45	7:15	1:15	7:40
Thurs.	1:25	8:00	1:55	8:20

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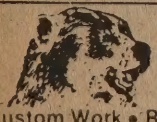

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BAIT-UP FOR FISHING

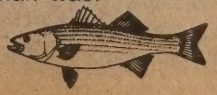
(Continued from page 9.)

the leader to eighteen inches. Many large hump-back sea bass will fall victim to this bait.

Squid is the one bait that will take a variety of bottom fish—even flounders if dyed red with ordinary food coloring. This is another bait sold pre-packaged and frozen.

To prepare, split the mantle down the middle, discard innards and the cellophane-like strip, then peel off the outer skin. The head and tentacles are often used for chum. Combine a strip of squid with a live killie or spearing and you have a bait fluke will pounce upon with relish. You'll find it often outfishes other fluke baits.

Try these baits for the fish you want. You'll soon see how right the old fisherman was.



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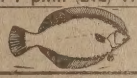

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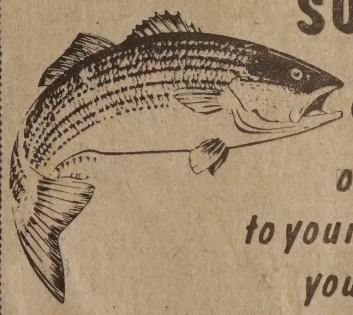

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TIDE TABLES

NOTE: *All times shown are Daylight Savings Time*

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGEPORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
9/19 THURSDAY	10:48	11:07	—	12:21	2:08	2:22	1:54	2:14
9/20 FRIDAY	11:39	11:58	12:52	1:13	2:56	3:09	2:43	3:01
9/21 SATURDAY	—	12:29	1:45	2:08	3:48	4:00	3:33	3:54
9/22 SUNDAY	12:51	1:20	2:45	3:10	4:50	5:06	4:29	4:50
9/23 MONDAY	1:44	2:15	3:50	4:12	6:07	6:30	5:29	5:51
9/24 TUESDAY	2:42	3:11	4:55	5:15	7:16	7:38	6:29	6:52
9/25 WEDNESDAY	3:44	4:11	5:58	6:13	8:17	8:37	7:30	7:51
9/26 THURSDAY	4:45	5:08	6:46	7:00	9:08	9:29	8:25	8:44

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet,Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

9/16	9/23	10/1	10/8
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

TO

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